Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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OPA probes sole-source ARRA contract

» Ada's partner is ex-manager of firm that bagged ARRA contracts
» Fitial provides documents to ARRA Transparency board chair

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Ada

The Office of the Public Auditor is now investigating the substance of complaints related to the $392,406 no-bid, sole-source contract the Fitial administration awarded to former Commerce secretary Michael J. Ada's Integrated Professional Solutions LLC. The contract was for IPS to privately manage the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in the CNMI.

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

People line up outside the Commonwealth Election Commission office in Susupe yesterday afternoon to wait for their turn to cast their ballots for the CNMI nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives and three legislative initiatives. Early voting began on Oct. 22—10 days prior to the Nov. 2 elections.

3 voters complain of intimidation

» Over 700 votes cast in first 4 days of early voting

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

7 days before delegate election

This early, complaints of voter intimidation have already been filed with the Office of the Attorney General and these incidents are now being looked at by both local and federal agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Meaghan Hassel Shearer, assistant attorney general, confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that three complaints of voter intimidation were filed over the weekend.

Early voting on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota started on Friday, Oct. 22.

"This weekend I received three complaints of voter intimidation occurring during the early voting period. Under federal law, voter

See 3 VOTERS on Page 4

Kilili raises most money so far in delegate race

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan has raised $83,628 and spent $39,072 in his campaign as of Sept. 30, topping three other candidates for the CNMI nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Former lieutenant governor and former associate justice Jesse C. Borja of the Democratic Party ranked second with $34,979 raised and $34,082 spent as of Oct. 13.

These are based on the 2010 U.S.

See KILILI on Page 4

Cop indicted for alleged 'ice' trafficking

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Richards

A police officer has been indicted in federal court for allegedly engaging in a conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

Police officer Florencio Q. Richards was charged with conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance, distribution of a controlled substance, carrying a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime, and possession of a firearm by a prohibited person.

Saipan Tribune learned yesterday that the U.S. District Court for the NMI issued an arrest warrant for Richards on

See COP on Page 4

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Do you plan to avail of the early voting process for the Nov. 2 delegate election?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Oral Hygiene
The Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic demonstrates the importance of good oral hygiene to first-graders.

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Bomb Blast
A bomb on a motorcycle explodes at a famous Sufi shrine in Pakistan, killing at least five.

ASIA...Page 15

Lohan Saga
New year, new Lindsay Lohan?

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

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Local

SUPPORTING LITERACY IN THE CNMI

The Bank of Hawaii Charitable Foundation awarded a $22,360 grant to the NMI Council for the Humanities to strengthen the Motheread Program. Present at the donation ceremony were, from left, Viola S. Deleon Guerrero, Motheread program coordinator; Scott Russell, Humanities Council executive director; John Sheather, senior vice president and deputy division manager, Pacific Islands Division, Bank of Hawaii; Tracy M. Guerrero, Humanities Council board chair, and Eloisa "Lisa" San Nicholas, assistant vice president and service manager, CNMI branches, Bank of Hawaii. The grant will support the training of twenty new community volunteers who will foster family literacy on Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

House poised to vote down override of Fitial's line-item veto on budget

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives may take up today the Senate's override of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's line-item veto of the fiscal year 2011 budget law, along with 12 other bills and initiatives on its bill calendar.

But the House leadership is lukewarm to the idea of overriding the governor's veto of a $360,000 subsidy for Rota and Tinian tourism programs and activities.

House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) said the leadership has the vote to defeat a motion to override the governor's veto. He said there's "no way" the leadership would override Fitial's line-item veto.

Some members of the minority bloc are leaning toward following the footsteps of senators.

The Senate overrode the governor's line-item veto of Public Law 17-21 on Thursday.

The deleted provision would make sure that $360,000 of the "all others" appropriation of the Marianas Visitors Authority will go into subsidizing Rota and Tinian charter flights and pay for outstanding obligations to travel partners.

Of the total amount, $120,000 will subsidize the charter flights from Japan to Rota; $120,000 to promote and market Tinian as a tourist destination; and $120,000 to pay the outstanding KNT account for completed charter flights from Japan to Rota.

The House was supposed to hold a session yesterday morning but this was rescheduled to this afternoon.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz's (R-Saipan) House Legislative Initiative 17-2, which calls for an election of the CNMI attorney general, is among the measures in today's bill calendar.

The Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations recommended neither passage nor filing of the elected AG initiative, but recommends that the full House membership decides on it.

Also on the bill calendar is minority leader Rep. Diego Benavente's (R-Saipan) House Bill 17-94, which bans possession, selling, offering for sale, trading or distribution of shark fins in the CNMI.

Congressman Kilili
Works for You!
Food stamps up $1.96 million.
Thanks for the extra food to feed my family.
$250 Social Security COLA check
I can use that extra money for medicine.
Military academy slots for NMI students doubled
I want to go the Naval Academy.
Over $100 million in Recovery Act money
Our economy needs that help in these tough times.
375 Recovery Act jobs
Our customers keep buying.
Entry for Russian and Chinese tourists
We have lots of guests this week.
Hotel staff
Re-elect Kilili on Nov. 2.
No. 3 on the ballot.
www.kililiforcongress.com
Paid for by Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Candlelight vigil on Rota for domestic violence awareness scheduled Oct. 29

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

A candlelight vigil on Rota slated for Oct. 29 will highlight the celebration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the CNMI.

Mildred Sikebert of the Victims of Crime Advocacy program under the Criminal Justice Planning Agency said they expect about 100 community members to join them in this event.

Sikebert told *Saipan Tribune* that the vigil was originally scheduled Friday but was moved to this week to accommodate more participants.

Sikebert, who serves as chair for the Family Violence Task Force on Rota, said this year's vigil aims to draw more participation from younger members of the public.

"We need to get our children involved in domestic violence awareness so we can also prevent teen violence," she said.

According to Sikebert, domestic violence might be happening in these teenagers' household but is disregarded out of fear or lack of knowledge.

"This vigil is a way for our community to come together and raise awareness on domestic violence," she said.

Sikebert said Friday's event will begin with a walk from Pinatang Park to the Rota Round House where they will hold the candlelight vigil.

She said supporters of domestic violence awareness from the Family Services Unit and the Domestic Violence Unit under the Family Violence Task Force will join the vigil. Students from Rota High School will also take part.

She said they also expect some members of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence to go to Rota and attend the vigil.

Sikebert urged the public to join them in their struggle to fight domestic violence in the community.

For more information, contact Mildred Sikebert at 532-9457.

Tourism Tuesday

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

TOURISM INDUSTRY EXCELLENCE AWARDS NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

The Marianas Visitors Authority is now accepting nominations for the annual Tourism Industry Excellence Awards, a recognition honoring business partners and private individuals who helped advance the state of tourism in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas during the prior fiscal year.

Categories are:

- Tourism Promotion/Campaign of the Year - Nominees should have run or participated in a promotion or campaign that substantially benefited overall tourism arrivals during the period and or significantly improved the image of our Islands.
- Volunteer of the Year – That person who donated their time, effort and /or funds to projects, companies, agencies or other entities for the betterment of tourism in the Marianas. This category will recognize two types of volunteer, Individual and Group/Company.
- Top Tourism Attraction – That person, place, location, activity, attribute or venue that attracted the most travelers to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.
- Most Outstanding Destination Enhancement –The physical project that best improved the salability of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to the traveling public and that was completed or substantially completed during 2010. MVA projects or related projects will not qualify.
- Employee of the Year – An employee of the year recipient or any other employee that is deserving of such recognition.

The winners of last year's Tourism Industry Excellence Awards were:

- Volunteer of the Year: Individual: Remy P. Rebellon; Organization/Group: TEAM PDI
- Most Outstanding Destination Enhancement: Laolao Bay Golf Resort
- Top Tourism Attraction of the Year nominee: Hell of the Marianas
- Employee of the Year: Russian Market Manager Elitza Stoilova, Pacific Islands Club Saipan

Nominations may be made by any MVA member and are due by 5 p.m., Nov. 30, 2010. Details and nomination forms are available by e-mailing vtenorio@mymarianas.com or mduenas@mymarianas.com or calling 1.670.664.3200. Winners will be awarded at the MVA Bi-annual Membership Meeting in December 2010.

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Be kind to a visitor today!

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Exemption of CHC admin staff from work-hour cuts sought

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Department of Public Health wants its administrative staff and support teams exempted from the 16-hour work cut being enforced by the Fitial administration.

Esther Muna, DPH acting deputy secretary for hospital administration, confirmed the department's proposal to exclude its more than 150 administrative and support staff from the work-hour cuts.

Doctors, nurses, and other hospital personnel who deal directly with patient care are already exempted from the cut. The Commonwealth Health Center currently has 24 physicians and over 200 nursing employees.

Muna stressed the important role CHC administrative personnel play in meeting Medicare requirements.

"In order for CHC to optimize reimbursement from Medicare, CHC must meet Medicare [conditions of participation]," she said.

Based on last month's Medicare resurvey of the hospital, both the hospital and hemodialysis operations require the active involvement of administrative personnel as part of the conditions of participation.

Muña also pointed out the need for administrative personnel for two ongoing projects: the Health Information Exchange and Medicaid Incentive Program. Both are federally funded, involve millions of dollars, and are time-sensitive.

"Both projects impose penalties on Medicare and Medicaid dollars if projects are not promptly completed. CHC may also lose out on incentive bonuses for not meeting 'meaningful use' requirements by 2011," said Muña.

Muña also appealed for the exemption of support teams in the Medicaid program, Hospital-Preparedness Program, and the medical referral program.

In fiscal year 2010, Medicare reimbursement totaled $9.402 million.

OPERATION CNMI HOMEFRONT SUPPORT NMC

Northern Marianas College students representing various clubs and organizations at the college take time to pose for a group photo with the Operation CNMI Homefront Support poster and donation boxes made by the students. Operation CNMI Homefront Support is a group that aims to create care packages to send to U.S. military personnel from the CNMI. The donation boxes are placed in stores throughout the community for people to donate items to Operation CNMI Homefront Support. Members in the community can also arrange to donate items, and submit names and addresses of soldiers from the CNMI to group organizer Geri Willis by texting or calling 788-4663 (HOME), or emailing homefront@pticom.com. From left: Franklin Palacios, Amber Mendiola, Sylvester Javier, Lorena Larin, Jolly Ann Cruz, Stacey Demapan, and Joven Villagomez.

$60,000 cash bail for ex-convict in new 'ice' charges

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed yesterday a $60,000 cash bail on an ex-convict who was arrested anew on Saturday morning for alleged trafficking of methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

Assistant public defender Michael Brown was named to represent Junding Qiu, a Chinese national. Preliminary hearing is on Nov. 3.

Qiu, 36, was taken to court yesterday on charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of controlled substance.

The Department of Public Safety issued Wednesday last week a notice about Qiu being hunted by police in connection with the new charges.

Detective Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that on Oct. 12, 2010, a "cooperating citizen" disclosed to DPS that a person in As Lito has been selling "ice."

The next day, Camacho said, members of the Drug Enforcement Task Force and Criminal Investigation Bureau used the "confidential informant" to buy $180 worth of "ice" from Qiu.

On Oct. 18, Camacho said, the same team— using the "confidential informant"—was able to again buy $100 worth of "ice" from the suspect.

Qiu has a prior conviction for illegal possession of "ice." He was sentenced to 257 days in prison on June 30, 2010, but was released that day because he was given credit for the time he had already served in jail. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Bank sues ex-Rota rep, family for $67K debt

The Bank of Saipan Inc. has sued former Rota representative Victor B. Hocog, his wife Vilia, and daughter Viola Jeanne over their debt amounting to $67,518.14.

The bank, through counsel Joshua Berger, asked the Superior Court to order Hocog, his wife, and daughter to pay the amount plus interest, court costs, and attorney's fees within three months.

Berger asked the court to order that two mortgaged lands on Rota be sold at public auction if the Hocogs fail to pay the amount.

The original loan was for $46,590, but Berger said Viola Jeanne Hocog now owe $67,518.14 as of Sept. 2, 2010.

The lawyer said over 30 days have elapsed since service of the notice of default upon the Hocogs and they have failed to pay.

"The Hocogs are therefore in breach of their agreement with plaintiff," Berger said.

Victor Hocog ran as independent bet for mayor of Rota in the Nov. 7, 2009, election, but lost to Melchor Atalig Mendiola. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

WASC team concludes special visit to NMC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A four-member team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges' Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges concluded its three-day special visit to the Northern Marianas College on Friday.

The team, which will validate the show-cause report submitted by the college last Oct. 15, is expected to submit its recommendation to the accrediting commission when it meets in January 2011 for a final decision.

NMC, when sought for comment yesterday, refused to disclose any details of the visit nor the contents of the show-cause report, citing WASC's confidentiality rule.

The college stated that accrediting commission's Policy on Public Disclosure states that NMC must maintain appropriate levels of confidentiality during the various stages of the accreditation process.

"As the policy further states, the accreditation process must occur within a context of trust and confidentiality if it is to result in an accurate appraisal of institutional quality," NMC statement said.

Saipan Tribune learned that the four-member group started meeting with college officials, students, and Board of Regent members last Wednesday through Friday.

Sources at the college disclosed that the team was composed of Drs. Houston, Pagotto, Wickman, and Negash. The team members' first names were withheld.

Besides personal meetings with various groups at the campus, it was learned that the team also sought some documents from the college, all relating to accreditation issues.

The commission had cited 10 concerns in its June 30 show-cause letter to NMC. The college, in its approximately 40-page report, provided the corrective measures taken and justified why it should keep its accreditation.

In a statement yesterday, NMC management stated that the show-cause report and other information pertaining to the commission's actions will be posted on the college's website (www.nmcnet.edu) as soon as it is appropriate to do so.

The commission is expected to either accept or reject the college's report in January 2011. NMC—after the commission's action—may be placed in probation, retain its show-cause status, or its accreditation revoked.

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'Hot Brothers' episode on Saipan a swimming success

This month's "Hot Brothers" television episodes in Korea were a swimming success for the Northern Mariana Islands, as the popular show aired two episodes taped last month in Saipan.

"Hot Brothers" is a segment of "Sunday, Sunday Night," the longest-running entertainment show in South Korea reaching an average 15 million viewers. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, the first episode on Oct. 10, 2010, created an additional buzz on numerous online entertainment portals and blogs after its airing.

"We are especially pleased to help facilitate this kind of mass media coverage in our source markets. By leveraging our advertising dollars in this way we can reach millions of potential visitors we would otherwise not be able to make an impact on," said Bruce Bateman, marketing manager for the MVA.

The two episodes brought an estimated $1-million in ad exposure to this island resort destination. Even though the "Hot Brothers" was filmed in secret without advance notice to media, over 50 articles related to the filming on Saipan were posted on entertainment online news portals in expectation.

"[Recording artist] Simon D. visits in Saipan as the first overseas trip in his life," read one article. "Lee Ki-Kwang, one of the 'Hot Brothers' members, to reveal his perfect six-pack in Saipan," touted another.

The MVA assisted the film crew with permits and logistics during the filming. According to the MVA, several hotel partners have expressed delight with the extensive coverage of the natural beauty of Saipan and have indicated their interest in participating as a featured resort in upcoming television episodes.

"Sunday, Sunday Night" airs on Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation, one of the top three TV networks in Korea. While in the Northern Marianas, the show filmed its "Entertainment Training Camp" segments on location at award-winning Managaha Island, secluded Jeffrey's Beach, the main tourist district of Garapan. Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport, and San Antonio Beach. Plus, they also filmed various water sports and hotel guest rooms and lobbies. ***(MVA)***

PACIFIC BRIEFS

Former Samoan lawmaker admits attempted rape

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—A former deputy parliamentary speaker in Samoa, Namulau'ulu Vavae Tuilagi, has admitted to one count of attempting to rape a 32-year-old woman last year. The 62-year-old defendant had originally denied the charges of attempted rape and indecent assault. However his lawyer has advised the court that Tuilagi had changed his mind. The indecent assault has been withdrawn by the police after the defendant's change of pleas. The victim is a relative. The former politician will be sentenced on November the 22nd.

147 to contest Tonga's first democratic election

NUKUALOFA, Tonga (Matangi Tonga/PIR)—In Tonga, registration of candidates closed at 3pm today, with a total of 147 candidates running for 32 seats in parliament in the country's first democratic General Election on Nov. 25. After 4pm candidates were called for each constituency and drew a number, being their position on the ballot paper, upon police supervision inside the Electoral Commission office in Nuku'alofa. At 6:45pm the Electoral Supervisor Pita Vuki on Radio Tonga read out the names of the candidates for the 17 constituencies.

Nauru court upholds state of emergency

MELBOURNE, Australia (Radio Australia/PIR)—The Supreme Court in Nauru has found the government is within its right to invoke a state of emergency legislation under the constitution. Members of the opposition initiated the court action alleging President Marcus Stephen acted unconstitutionally when he sacked the parliamentary speaker and declared a state of emergency in June. The government argued that Mr Stephen had little alternative after two successive elections resulted in deadlock, with parliament unable to get the numbers to elect a president.

KILILI

From Page 1

House and Senate campaign finance for the CNMI, posted on the Federal Election Commission's website as of yesterday.

The delegate race is on Nov. 2, 2010, but early voting in the CNMI began on Nov. 22.

Covenant Party's Joe N. Camacho, a former CNMI House floor leader, raised $28,964 in his campaign and spent $26,160 as of Sept. 30.

Former governor Juan N. Babauta of the Republican Party came in fourth with $24,159 spent and $21,566 spent. But the actual figures may be higher, considering that Babauta's filing is still as of July 15, or three months ago. Babauta has yet to return media's call for comment.

There are at least two reporting deadlines that cover the CNMI delegate candidates. One is the quarterly reporting for the period from July 1 to Sept. 30, and the deadline for submission was on Oct. 15.

The second report is the pre-election report, and the deadline for filing is Oct. 21. The reports submitted are either still in transit or have yet to be posted on the FEC website.

Who are the contributors?

Sablan's campaign raised the most so far. The amount of cash and in-kind contributions from over 100 individuals, committees, and the candidate himself ranges from $25 to $2,225, totaling $83,628. They include those from individuals and entities based in the CNMI, Guam, and other U.S. states.

Ten individuals from the CNMI and Maryland and the candidate himself contributed to Borja's campaign, each giving anywhere from $220 to $1,280, for the sum of $34,979.

Camacho's campaign raised $28,964, including those from 10 individuals including the candidate himself and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

As of July, only six individuals from the CNMI and Hawaii, along with Babauta himself, contributed to Babauta's campaign. The individual contributions are from $120 to $1,000 each, totaling $24,159.

OPA

From Page 1

As standard practice, OPA cannot divulge more information about ongoing investigations.

Public Auditor Michael Pai could only confirm yesterday that OPA has received complaints on, and is investigating, the matter.

"OPA has received complaints on this matter. However, OPA cannot comment on open investigations," Pai said, in response to *Saipan Tribune* questions.

At the same time, Ada's business partner in IPS—Jose Padilla—is a former executive at Red Rock LLC, which bagged an ARRA contract when Ada was still the CNMI's ARRA state lead and Commerce secretary, documents supporting Ada's business license application show.

Ada and Padilla are the "initial members" of IPS, and Ada is the organizer, based on the articles of organization, a copy of which *Saipan Tribune* reviewed yesterday.

A few months ago, Red Rock LLC bagged a $50,000 ARRA contract for the replacement of air conditioning at the NMI Judicial Building in Susupe, and installation of energy-efficient and environmentally-friendly air conditioning units at the Legislative Building on Capital Hill.

Based on the CNMI ARRA online postings, Red Rock LLC's Adam Lortz and Jose Padilla were the primary point of contact for the project.

Besides OPA, the office of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden is also asking for a copy of Ada's sole-source ARRA contract and other related information through the office of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan. Sablan wrote to Biden last week, raising concerns about the sole-source ARRA contract award.

Fitial informed Sablan in an Oct. 21 letter that the information being asked for had been forwarded directly to Earl E. Devaney, chairman of the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board. Devaney is a former inspector general of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

In an earlier statement, Fitial said the purpose of the contract to IPS is to outsource the CNMI's management of the ARRA dollars to the private sector.

The governor awarded the contract to Ada shortly after Ada stepped down as Commerce secretary and ARRA state lead, and even before Ada could obtain a business license for his consulting firm.

Ada's inability to "transfer knowledge" to his colleagues in government about ARRA—which he gained mostly during his frequent trips to the U.S. since 2009—gave him undue advantage over any potential bidders, had the contract for ARRA management been put out for bids, sources privy to the issue earlier said.

The CNMI Ethics Act of 1992 requires post-government employment restrictions. Former public officials and employees "shall not for one year after public employment or office assist or represent anyone in a business transaction involving the Commonwealth if they participated personally and substantially in it while in office or employment," OPA said in its analysis of the law.

They also "shall not assist in any judicial, legislative, or administrative proceeding if they previously participated personally and substantially in it while in office or employed by the Commonwealth," said OPA.

The Fitial administration said Ada has an advantage among other possible bidders had the government bid out the management of the ARRA program, because of Ada's extensive and historic knowledge of the program.

The governor said the government will not risk losing some $100 million in ARRA funding just because there's no continuity of effective management of ARRA, which only Ada can provide.

COP

From Page 1

Thursday, shortly after the indictment was filed.

As of yesterday, the Federal Bureau of Investigation had yet to serve the warrant on the police officer.

Attorney Joseph N. Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* that he has already arranged for Richards' surrender to the FBI by today, Tuesday.

Camacho said the gun named in the indictment was the service firearm the Department of Public Safety issued to Richards.

Camacho is the court-appointed counsel for Richards, who has a pending criminal case in the Superior Court arising from the same allegations in the federal case.

Assistant U.S. Attorney James J. Benedetto stated in the indictment that sometime in July 2010 to July 15, 2010, Richards and others conspired to distribute "ice" in exchange for money or other things of value.

On July 15, 2010, Richards allegedly drove an "unindicted co-conspirator" to San Jose, behind the San Jose Mart, where they allegedly sold "ice" to another person.

That same day, Richards drove to Clara Market area in Kannat Tabla, where the unindicted co-conspirator bought "ice" from a person in order to replenish their supply of the drug.

Richards then allegedly drove to the vicinity of Martha Store in Garapan where the unindicted co-conspirator sold "ice" to another person.

During this whole time, Richards allegedly had a Smith & Wesson 9 millimeter semi-automatic handgun under the seat of his pickup truck.

On July 15, 2010, the CNMI Joint Drug Task Force arrested Richards and Belinda O. Omengkar inside a 1993 Hilux pickup truck parked at the Garapan Fishing Base for alleged trafficking and possession of "ice." At the time, Richards was off-duty.

The Office of the Attorney General then charged Richards with three counts of trafficking of a controlled substance, three counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance, one count of conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance, and one count of carrying a firearm while under the influence of alcohol, narcotic, or disabling drugs.

The OAG charged Omengkar with five counts of trafficking of a controlled substance, six counts of illegal possession of a controlled substance, and one count of conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance.

Richards and Omengkar both pleaded not guilty to the charges. The cases are still pending in the Superior Court.

Richards is out on a $1,000 cash bail and $9,000 unsecured bond.

3 VOTERS

From Page 1

intimidation, conspiring to suppress voter participation, and vote buying are expressly prohibited," said Hassel Shearer.

She said the OAG takes these complaints "very seriously" and have met with the Office of the Public Auditor, FBI, and the OAG Criminal Division to discuss the matter.

The 10-day early voting period came about because of a new election law. The same law provides a 30-day early voting period for the Northern Islands.

Hassel Shearer also assured early voters of the secrecy of their ballots in the wake of concerns about their participation in the early voting process.

"I have heard concerns from voters [that], if they choose to vote early, who they voted for can be identified. Ballots are kept in sealed ballot boxes. Only the OPA has the keys to these boxes. On Nov. 2, when the Election Commission counts the ballots, your registration form will be separated from your ballot," she said.

After all the registration forms have been removed, only then will the ballot envelopes be opened, she said.

"Accordingly, the secrecy of your ballot remains intact," Hassel Shearer added.

She encouraged voters to contact her at ceclegalcounsel@gmail.com if they have any concerns.

Since the early voting process began on Friday, over 700 individuals have already cast their votes as of 5pm yesterday on Saipan, according to Commonwealth Election Commission executive director Robert A. Guerrero.

A small number of voters were noted on both Tinian and Rota in the last four days. As of Friday, only one Northern Islands voter had been recorded.

As of Oct. 22, the total number of registered voters in the Commonwealth was at 16,574, including 998 absentee voters as of Oct. 14.

The updated list of voters is broken down into the following: Saipan, 13,500; Tinian, 1,453; and Rota, 1,621.

This year's delegate election has four candidates: Republican Party's Juan N. Babauta; Democratic Party's Jesus Borja; Covenant Party's Joseph Camacho; and incumbent Gregorio Sablan, who is running as an independent.

Three legislative initiatives are also on the ballot for voters' ratification.

Teen gets 18-month prison sentence for restaurant robbery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court handed down yesterday an 18-month prison term on a teenager who, along with a male juvenile, assaulted a restaurant owner with a rock during a robbery.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja sentenced the 18-year-old Eric Aguon to seven years in prison, all suspended except for 18 months, for assault with a dangerous weapon.

Aguon will serve the sentence without the possibility of parole.

He was, however, given credit for the time he has been serving in jail since his arrest on May 1, 2010.

Aguon is expected to be released from the Department of Corrections on Nov. 1, 2011.

He was required to pay $25 in restitution to the victim, a $560 probation fee, and $100 court costs, plus 500 hours of community service and counseling at the Community Guidance Center.

Aguon was also required to testify in the case against his co-defendant.

Aguon admitted that on May 1, 2010, he went into the Chang Won Restaurant in Chalan Kanoa armed with a rock, and threatened to hurt the owner, Kyung Aea Jung, to get money.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Aguon with armed robbery, assault with a dangerous weapon, theft, conspiracy to commit robbery, underage person consuming alcohol, and four counts of disturbing the peace.

Aguon pleaded guilty to assault with a dangerous weapon as part of a plea bargain. The remaining charges were dismissed.

Assistant attorney general Peter Prestley represented the government. Assistant public defender Richard Miller served as counsel for the defendant.

Chief Prosecutor Michael Ernest said yesterday that the OAG is pleased with the result of this case. He urged the public to cooperate in solving other burglaries and robberies.

The case stems from a robbery at Chang Won Restaurant on May 1, 2010. Police said they received a call about the robbery at 12:55am.

Police officers learned that two individuals entered the restaurant, demanded money, and assaulted the female owner with a piece of lumber and large rocks.

Fearing for her life, the businesswoman gave cash to one of the suspects, then ran to the back room and sought assistance.

The surveillance camera in the establishment led to the identification of Aguon and the juvenile.

CDA open house draws non-typical visitors

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority was satisfied with the conclusion of its week-long open house but was a bit disappointed by the turnout of the stakeholders meeting.

Loan manager Oscar Camacho said during yesterday's board meeting that the CDA open house from Oct. 18 to 22 saw the participation of over 70 individuals from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Camacho told the board that the open house proved to be "quite interesting" because it garnered a lot of interest from other members of the community.

"People who walked in are people that we do not typically see visiting CDA. These are people who do not know anything about CDA but came and inquired about our programs," he said.

On Saipan alone, Camacho said there were more than a dozen inquiries about new loans for potential businesses on the island.

"There were quite a few who were interested in putting up different types of businesses," he added.

Camacho said the open house was also an opportunity to patronize CDA clients and their businesses by showcasing their products such as goodies and sweets.

The open house culminated with the raffle draw, which gave 10 borrowers $500 credit to their existing accounts with the agency.

Those who attended the stakeholders meeting on Oct. 15 and visited the agency during the open house automatically qualified for the raffle.

Camacho said there were two winners from Tinian, two winners from Rota, and six winners from Saipan.

Two laptops were also given away to non-borrowing members of the public who attended the stakeholders meeting and open house.

Camacho said there was one laptop winner from Saipan and one from Tinian.

'Not particularly pleased'

The loan manager said he was not particularly pleased with the turnout of the stakeholders meeting.

Dubbed Dialogue on CDA Matters, the meeting was held at the American Memorial Park Theatre Hall.

Camacho said the meeting was attended by 53 persons from Saipan, 10 from Tinian, and 14 from Rota.

Although the participation from Tinian and Rota was a welcome surprise, Camacho said they expected more attendees from Saipan.

"We were hoping we'd get more than a hundred from Saipan because we did go out and hand-delivered invitations and even called up our 150 borrowers," he said.

Camacho said they also handed invitations to banks and other financial institutions, insurance companies, and government agencies "but failed to see their participation" during the meeting.

Despite the turnout, Camacho said they were encouraged by the different comments and assessments from the agency's existing clients, particularly the Tinian attendees who gave suggestions to the agency like the micro loan program and online billing.

Formerly known as the Economic Development Loan Fund, CDA is an autonomous public agency established in 1985 to provide funding for new and ongoing development projects in the Commonwealth through its various loan programs.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a MPLT Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, October 29, 2010 beginning at 3:00PM at the MPLT Conference Room 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill, Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

I. PRELIMINARIES
- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of Minutes
  - November 20, 2009
  - December 17, 2009
  - September 24, 2010

II. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

III. CONSULTANT'S REPORTS
- Investment Consultant Reports
  - o Approval of New Money Manager(s)
- Legal Counsel Report
- Loan Administrator Report
- Board Consultant Report

IV. OLD BUSINESS
- DPL Distribution and Constitutional Issues
- RFP 10-03 – Sale of 3 Bedroom House in Kagman- Draft
- MPLT Resolution 10-10 – Review and Action
- MPLT Guaranteed Loan – BOH
- American Memorial Park – Request
- Accredited Analyst Program - Action

V. COMMUNICATIONS
- Loan Deferment Request – Review and Action

VI. NEW BUSINESS
- CUC Request- Review and Action

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ Phillip Mendiola-Long, AIF Chairman, MPLT Trustees

Embrace Versatility
Mobile Phone with Next Generation User Interface,
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Tinian commissioners' eligibility for retirement benefits questioned

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) is questioning the eligibility of Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission members' eligibility to receive retirement benefits based on their compensation as members and employees of the commission.

"It is my understanding that these individuals are not employees of the Commonwealth government and therefore should not be members of the Retirement Fund," Tenorio said in an Oct. 15 letter to NMI Retirement Fund acting administrator Richard Villagomez.

As of yesterday, Villagomez has yet to respond to his letter asking for clarification on the matter, Tenorio said.

"I am also going to write a similar letter to the Office of the Public Auditor. The Retirement Fund is taking its time to respond," Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune*.

Tenorio, who introduced a Saipan casino bill that the House passed and the Senate rejected, said the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission is a local government agency of a separate political subdivision, and it is not part of the CNMI government.

"It is my understanding that only employees of the Commonwealth government can participate in the Retirement Fund," Tenorio told Villagomez.

Tenorio's letter was prompted by the reported resignation of three members of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission, including chairman Francisco M. Borja, Peter Q. Cruz and Michael H. San Nicolas.

Each commissioner gets $100,000 in salary and benefits annually.

Flores bars Ogumoro from representing SHEFA

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor Donald Flores, the appointing authority for members of the Saipan Higher Educational Financial Assistance, barred Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro from representing the SHEFA board in any of its activities and programs.

Flores made the move shortly after accepting Ogumoro's resignation on Sept. 30. He also denied Ogumoro's appeal to rescind her resignation.

In an Oct. 19 letter to Magdalena C. Camacho, acting chair of the SHEFA board, Flores clarified Ogomuro's position on the SHEFA board.

"As the appointing authority under 10 CMC 3992(c), I am informing that Ms. Felicidad Ogomuro resigned from the SHEFA board of directors. Her resignation took effect on Oct. 1, 2010 and by her action to resign from the board, she is no longer a director of the board," Flores' letter dated Oct. 19 stated.

The mayor instructed the acting chair to ensure that "no person who is not a current member on the SHEFA board, or any person whom the board has not delegated its authority, is allowed to conduct or attempt to conduct business on behalf of the SHEFA board."

"I understand that Ms. Ogomuro continues to act as a board member. The SHEFA board must not permit Ms. Ogomuro to act on behalf of the SHEFA board as her lack of authority undermines and jeopardizes the integrity and responsibilities of the board," said the mayor, reiterating his acceptance of Ogomuro's resignation.

The SHEFA board impasse came to light during last week's legislative session.

Ogomuro, with two other board members, adopted two resolutions dated Oct. 15, reinstating Ogomuro to the position and questioning the appointment of acting board chair Camacho.

The first resolution—signed by Ogomuro, Juan K. Tenorio, and Jose Leon Guerrero—affirmed their status on the board and reinstates Ogomuro as its chair.

The second resolution indicated two vacancies on the board that were left vacant by Maximo Olopai and Perry Tenorio.

Ogomuro is the vice speaker of the House of Representatives.

SDA Clinic donates $25K to school

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School principal Michael Berglund, right, addresses the staff of SDA Clinic led by Clinic Director Kenneth Pierson during the plaque presentation for the clinic last Sept. The clinic approved on Thursday a donation of $25,000 worth of scholarships for the school.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Seventh-Day Adventist School will be able to help more students receive Christian education after the SDA Clinic approved Thursday a donation of $25,000 worth of scholarships.

School principal Michael Berglund confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that the donation will be used to subsidize the education of more students through their scholarship program.

The donation is the second made by the clinic to the school. Last month, the school recognized SDA Clinic for its generous donation of $28,000 worth of scholarships.

The first donation sponsored 15 scholars from kindergarten to 10th grade.

Berglund expressed his appreciation to the SDA Clinic for their generosity and support for the school. "We're sister institutions and it's just nice to have a board that is very supportive," he said.

Berglund said the $25,000 donation will be used to accommodate more than 15 scholars.

He said they are looking at accepting more students from grades 1 to 4 and 9 to 10 but "wouldn't necessarily turn away students from different grade levels.

According to Berglund, the scholarship program is open to all members of the community and is not limited to a specific religious domination. However, the principal said students who want to apply must have a relatively good standing and financial need would also be considered.

Berglund noted that the scholarship program will only pay for up to 75 percent of the tuition of each scholar. The students and their families must shoulder the remaining 25 percent.

At present, the SDA School has about 70 students in their San Antonio location while 32 are enrolled in their Child Development Center in San Jose.

US MILITARY CONTRACTING
Small Business Outreach Forum
OCTOBER 27th, 2010 - 8:00am-4:30pm
Tinian Dynasty Hotel
Hosted by the Tinian Chamber of Commerce

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Honorable Mayor Ray Dela Cruz
Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

Mr. John Jackson
Director of the Joint Guam Program Office

Mr. Richard Solander
Project Manager
Office of Economic Adjustment
Office of the Secretary of Defense

Mrs. Vera Topasna
Program Manager
US Department of Defense Procurement Technical Assistance Center

Mr. Albert Sampson
Small Business Advisor
NAVFAC Marianas

RADM Paul J. Bushong
US Defense Representative for Micronesia

CAPT Peter S. Lynch
Commanding Officer of NAVFAC Marianas

Mr. Frank Crisostomo-Kaaihue
Director
Guam Veterans Business Outreach Center

Mr. Casey Jeszenka
Network Director
Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center

Mr. Christopher Dunsmore
Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)–Pacific Guam

The **Tinian Chamber of Commerce US Military Contracting Small Business Outreach Forum** will be held on **October 27th, 2010** and begins at **8AM (registration) 9AM(first speaker) and ends at 4:30PM** the same day. Participants can therefore attend the meeting during the day on Tinian and be able to return back to Guam or Saipan the same day if necessary. Registration is $25 with no lunch or $45 with lunch. All funds collected go to the Tinian Chamber of Commerce in order to cover expenses of hosting the event. To register, please visit
www.TinianChamber.com

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Residential Weatherization Program (CNMI-EECBG-ARRA-RWP)

The CNMI Energy Division Office is pleased to announce that it will begin accepting applications for the **Residential Weatherization Program** on **October 27, 2010**, under the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands Energy, Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Residential Weatherization Program (CNMI-EECBG-ARRA-RWP) **to retrofit residential dwellings by replacing in-efficient with efficient appliances and lightings to reduce energy consumption.**

Applications for Residential Weatherization Program will be available to the public at the CNMI Energy Division Office located at House No. 1337, Ascencion Dr., Capital Hill, Saipan, M.P. 96950 or may be downloaded from its Official Website at **www.cnmienergy.com.**

If anyone should have any question or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. David V. Ada Jr. at 664-4480/81.

GTC first graders learn about good oral hygiene

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Seventh-Day Adventist Clinic demonstrated the importance of keeping good oral hygiene to first-grade students at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School on Oct. 22 as part of the celebration of National Dental Hygiene Month this month.

Registered dental hygienist Lori I. Serna talked to the young students about the importance of keeping their teeth healthy by means of various learning activities like storytelling and coloring.

Fourteen students under the first grade class of Francine Camacho watched Serna demonstrate the proper way of brushing one's teeth to keep them free from plaque and cavities.

"Studies have shown that about 60 to 80 percent of elementary students have at least one cavity," revealed Serna.

She told *Saipan Tribune* that SDA Clinic has been conducting public information awareness campaign for 10 years now.

"What we like to do is we share with the community the different programs we have that promote good oral hygiene," she said, adding that reaching out to students through school presentations is one way of educating them about caring for the teeth.

Serna said the SDA Clinic wants to educate children on what teeth do for a person, why teeth should be taken cared of, and how to take care of teeth properly.

"Most people don't realize that teeth actually improve the quality of life. We use our teeth to eat during social gatherings. When our teeth hurt, it's hard for us to get together with family and friends. Children, even grownups, don't understand the importance of dental hygiene," she explained.

According to Serna, getting children to understand the importance of keeping teeth healthy while they're young is more effective as it helps prevent dental problems at an early age.

Serna commended GTC Elementary School, describing it as "very progressive" in promoting healthy habits among its students.

"GTC is an amazing school. They're very health conscious. In fact, they don't allow candies in the school and give parents a list of allowed snacks for the students to encourage healthy lifestyle," she said.

Camacho agreed with Serna, adding that hands on activities for the children help them remember about these important lessons.

CLARISSA V. DAVID
Registered dental hygienist Lori Serna demonstrates to first grader Grace Allen the proper way of brushing one's teeth on Friday at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School.

MHS launches its Sidewalk Safety Project

The Marianas High School Community Council is inviting the community, parents and alumni of Marianas High School to participate in the Sidewalk Safety Project.

"As the islands' oldest public high school, Marianas High School suffers from old infrastructure, including a line of sidewalks that are cracking and splitting at unsafe levels," said MHS principal Craig Garrison. "As alumni, we want to help."

Community members, parents and alumni are encouraged to participate and bring a bag of cement and place it on the palettes along the school's main parking lot starting today.

"The whole idea is to revitalize our community in getting involved by physically bringing a bag of cement with the visual result that you have contributed to building a safer school for our students," said Garrison.

"Everyone will see that line of cement bags grow and it will help energize our efforts in seeing that our community does care and they are a big part of the improvements going on at MHS," he said.

For more information, call Christine Tudela at 664-3806. ***(PR)***

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Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, **Plaintiff,** **vs.** **LAURA I. MANGLONA and THOMAS M. MANGLONA,** **Defendants.**	**Civil Action No. 08-0214-CV** **SECOND NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 23, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in the following property: Lot No. 003 R 30 (formerly known as Block 31, Lot 6), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 003 R 00, the original of which was registered on November 12, 1971 as Document No. 1290 at Land Registry, Saipan, situated on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 651 square meters, more or less, and recorded at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on September 12, 1996 as Document No. 96-2289.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on October 29, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.

Terms and Conditions of Sale.

1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c) To reject any and all bids.

2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.

3. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check, or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.

4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 30th day of September, 2010.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

CNMI Voting Accessibility Survey

Help us make your voting experience an accessible one!

The Commonwealth Election Commission, together with the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, and the Northern Marianas College University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, is conducting a survey on voter accessibility. We are asking for everyone's feedback on the voting process so that we can make improvements.

Why are we conducting this survey?

Through gathering your input, we are working together to improve your voting experience.

CNMI Voting Accessibility Survey 2010
Please Mark your answers accordingly inside the box provided.
1)Have you observed any voters with disabilities encountering difficulties with voting or with accessing the polling place?
Yes
No
Comments:
2) If you are a person with a disability, experience any problems while voting?
SAMPLE

Please give your completed survey to a poll worker at the voting site.

CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities
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UCEDD

ADULT SCHOOL PROGRAM

Placement test dates set for Rota

The Northern Marianas College Adult Basic Education program has scheduled a placement test for the Adult School program at the NMC Rota Instructional Site on Friday, Oct. 29, 2010, from 9am to 1pm.

The Adult School program aims to assist individuals acquire basic skills necessary to function more effectively and productively, to gain upward mobility, and to provide the opportunities that will enable them to pursue further education. This is accomplished through a variety of life-skills oriented, competency-based courses that lead to the achievement of a high school equivalency diploma.

To enroll in the Adult School program, individuals must take the placement test in order to identify their current academic level and assess their educational needs. There is no registration fee to take the placement test.

The Adult School program consists of two phases: Academic Skills and Career Skills. The Academic Skills phase consists of five modules covering important skills needed for everyday life that include Occupational Knowledge, Community Resources, Consumer Economics, Health, and Government & Law. The Career Skills phase offers three programs: Career Courses, On the Job Experience and Advanced Academic Skills.

Those eligible to enroll in the Adult School program include individuals who are 17 years or older, have been out of school for at least six months, and are U.S. citizens, CNMI residents, FAS citizens, or non-alien I.R. International Students (proper documentation is required).

To register or to obtain more information regarding the placement test, contact NMC Rota Instructional Site program coordinator Martin Mendiola at 532-9477. Those interested can also visit the Adult Basic Education program in Building G at the As Terlaje campus, or call 234-3690 ext. 1721/23/24.

The ABE program is also recruiting qualified instructors for the program. Those interested are highly encouraged to submit an application for review and certification to the NMC Human Resources Office located in Building P at the NMC As Terlaje campus.

ABE is a program under the Division of Community Programs and Services that is funded through the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Vocational and Adult Education. ***(NMC)***

Can you identify

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the *Saipan Tribune,* is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.

If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.

Last week's photo was identified as follows: From left, front row: Maria Duenas, Magdalena M. Deleon Guerrero, and Ermiania F. Boyer. Back row, from left: Emiliana R. Lizama, Asunta Celis, and Diana Indalecio. Photo taken at Hopwood Junior High School in 1974. Identified by: John Deleon Guerrero, Herman C. Santos, Delia M. Camacho, Vicky Deleon Guerrero, Lucia C. Tudela, Terry Kisa, Edward B. Manibusan, Erna Ogumoro-Ngirchogor, and Emma Peter.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Cancer survivor support meeting today

All cancer survivors are invited to a survivor support meeting today, Oct. 26, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room starting at 5:30pm. This month's meeting will feature a mini-workshop on "The Joy of Seeing, Taking, and Sharing Photographs," by professional photographer Bryan Jones. A graduate of the Brooks Institute, a photographer of 33 years, and a prostate cancer survivor of five years, Jones will share how his love of photography helped calm his mind, body, and spirit during his cancer journey. All meeting participants are encouraged to bring a camera. Jones' presentation will be followed by a survivors-only discussion. For more information, or to RSVP, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or cca@ccamarianas.org, or call the DPH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728. ***(CCA)***

CCA board to convene tomorrow

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors will be convening its next monthly meeting tomorrow, Oct. 27, 2010, at the Mai Restaurant, Fiesta Resort & Spa, starting at 12pm. The agenda will include updates on the 2009 annual report publication, Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities, publication of A Yogini's Cancer Journey (personal story of a cancer survivor), and the Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition Memorandum of Understanding; CCA's financial report for the quarter ending Sept. 30; reports from the board committees and program manager; a review of CCA patient services policies; discussion of the upcoming 2010 Diabetes Health Community Forums and the 2010 Health & Wellness Fair in November; and updates on the promulgation of regulations for the Smoke-Free Air Act. All CCA board meetings are open to the public. For more information call 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(CCA)***

SSHS PTA meeting tomorrow

Saipan Southern High School will have a PTA meeting tomorrow, Oct. 27, 2010, at 6pm to 7pm in the Manta Café. ***(PR)***

UOG workshop on grant writing for farmers today

The University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service will hold a farmer grant writing workshop focusing on the grants available under the USDA Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Program. The workshop will be held tonight, Oct. 26, from 6pm to 8:30pm. It will be held in Room 104 of the Agriculture and Life Sciences building on the UOG campus. These grants are ideal for farmers, or organizations working with farmers, wanting to demonstrate a new sustainable agriculture practices. They are also suited for educators wanting to involve in students in agriculture. The workshop will cover the completing applications, program requirements and previously funded grants to Guam and our neighbor islands. For more information call 735-2080 or 735-2081 or 735-2072. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 11th Birthday to our queen, Mariana Vicenta "Kiki" Concepcion Teregeyo. Bula-la' love, from Mom, Dad, brother Me'Mong, your puppy Pepper and all the Teregeyo/Concepcion/Reyes family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Birthday greetings going to Judith Rose who is celebrating her birthday today. Best wishes coming from your family and may you have many more birthdays to come.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 26, 1999

CUC pressed to decide on Saipan power project

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation must decide immediately on the fate of the stalled Saipan power project in order to prevent serious outages in the future, a legislator said yesterday. Rep. Melvin O. Faisao joined calls for CUC Board to expedite its review of the findings made by independent experts ranking competing companies higher than Marubeni-Sithe, which won the $120 million contract during an in-house selection process. He said the government-owned utility corporation should not wait for another 90 days to finalize its decision, noting that Burns & McDonnell has already determined the best offers to build the 80-megawatt power plant.

NMC offers new business program

The Small Business Development Center of the Northern Marianas College is offering a new program that would allow established business owners to learn from one another's successful strategies. The program called Strategic Business Alliance will start on the third week of November, according to SBDC Manager Rik Villegas. Villegas said the six-month program, which is aimed at establishing strategic alliance among business owners in the CNMI, will provide a forum for business owners to exchange ideas during monthly brainstorming sessions.

Oct. 26, 2000

Municipal council seeks road repairs

Members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council has urged Mayor Jose C. Sablan and Public Works Secretary Juan B. Cepeda to expedite road repairs in areas connecting Kagman III, Kagman III and Phase IV toward the tank beach. Council Chair Gregorio V. Deleon Guerrero and Vice Chair David Indalecio, in a signed resolution, this week called the authorities' attention on the poor condition of the roads that continue to pose as unnecessary threat to the health and safety of motorists traveling along the area. "This road is highly utilized by our people traveling to and from these areas and is also frequently used by our students attending Kagman Elementary School that are not riding the school bus and who are within the distance zone established by the Public School System," said the council heads.

CPA checks if it can halt increase in airport charges

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is now making a thorough review of its financial capabilities in line with the scheduled adjustment of airport charges toward the end of October, according to Board Chair Roman S. Palacios. Mr. Palacios said the Board of Directors and the management are looking at the ports authority's financial situation to determine whether the agency can still continue holding the new airport charges that are up for implementation beginning next month. "We would like to move very cautiously. Everything, from our level of revenues to our expenditures and bond payment, is currently being looked at to give us a clearer picture what we can do to accommodate the carriers' request," he said.

Oct. 26, 2001

PSS explores budget options

The Public School System yesterday assessed its financial capability to stay afloat in the new fiscal year, exploring three separate budget plans that try to picture the worst-case budget scenarios. The Board of Education Fiscal and Personnel Committee yesterday listened to the PSS Fiscal and Budget Office's presentation on several budget options, in the event that it retains its current $37.2 million funding level or experience budget reductions. If the PSS continues to tread on the current $37.2 million continuing resolution, the agency expects to sufficiently support its operations, similar to FY 2001. This translates to meeting the PSS' normal, recurring expenses such as communication, trash, minimal repair needs, maintenance, books, subscriptions, among others.

Covenant of trust with CNMI unveiled

True to the commitment to deliver the CNMI from the current economic slump, and to improve and expand the fundamental needs and services for the citizens of CNMI, the Covenant Party unveiled its Covenant of Trust with the people. The Covenant of Trust details the quick and practical solutions that the Covenant party candidates intend to accomplish and deliver within specified periods of time starting from their first day in office. The party's standard bearer, Speaker Ben Fitial, said that the Covenant of Trust addresses critical concerns that need immediate attention.

KILILI SAYS HE WORKS FOR YOU. DOES HE REALLY?

EXPOSED: Kilili's Web of Lies.

Wednesday, April 7, 2010 - Saipan Tribune:
"Permanent status for aliens with US citizen kids, and others."
Delegate Gregorio C. Sablan (D-MP) said yesterday that "there are discussions going that way," referring to a proposal to grant "long-term permanent residency" status to certain groups of individuals, including foreign workers with U.S. citizen children in the CNMI, those with U.S. and FAS citizen spouses and immediate relatives, and CNMI permanent residents."

Thursday, April 8, 2010 - Marianas Variety:
"Permanent residency plan for spouses of US citizens only."
CONGRESSMAN Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan says "the CNMI permanent residency plan beind discussed in the U.S. Senate is intended only for the foreign spouses of U.S. citizens currently residing on the islands who have yet to convert their status and not for long-term non-resident workers."

***In essence, Kilili claims the U.S. Senate came to him, BUT in H.R. 3658 and H.R. 4397, KILILI is the SOLE SPONSOR!**

KILILI has a bad habit of SAYING ONE THING, BUT DOING THE EXACT OPPOSITE!

THIS IS WHAT HE SAID IN 2010:

Wednesday, May 5, 2010 - Marianas Variety:
"NO! to improved status without the NMI Support."
CONGRESSMAN Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan says "he will not let any CNMI Immigration-related legislation go through the U.S. Congress unless it is supported by the people of the Commonwealth."

BUT THIS IS WHAT HE DID IN 2009:

KILILI introduced 2 BILLS in the U.S. Congress in SUPPORT of IMPROVED STATUS for foreigners!

KILILI introduced H.R. 3658 and H.R. 4397 WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF THE CNMI!

***KILILI has NOT TOLD the INDIGENOUS PEOPLE about the two bills for improved status for non-residents.**

***MOREOVER, KILILI HAS NOT WITHDRAWN his 2 bills!**

WE ARE AT RISK OF BECOMING MINORITIES IN OUR OWN HOME IF YOU VOTE FOR GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN!

What Delegate GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN IS NOT TELLING YOU.

1. **KILILI supports improved status for ALL non-resident workers.**

2. **KILILI introduced 2 bills in support of improved status WITHOUT "the support of the people of the Commonwealth."**

3. **Both bills would grant ALL foreign nationals who were in the CNMI before May 8, 2008 the right to stay in the CNMI for 5 years and then be eligible to change their status.**

4. **Both bills would allow the children who were born in the CNMI to foreign parents "REGARDLESS" of their age to sponsor and change the status of their foreign parents.**

5. **H.R. 4397 would grant the U.S. Homeland Security the authority over foreign workers to waive any fees or registration requirements. Kilili's bill will give U.S. Homeland Security full authority over guest workers and the authority to decide who can be allowed to stay and who can be allowed to change their status.**

6. **H.R. 4397 has been referred to the Sub-committee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security, and International Law since March 1, 2010. (Source: 111th Library of Congress)**

Kilili says, "These people are our neighbors, our friends, our relatives in many cases. We have to make sure that they continue to live and work in the Northern Mariana Islands, just as they always have. THIS IS THEIR HOME!"
(Source: September 2009 Kilili Archives)

Paid for by the CNMI Descents for Self-Government and Indigenous Rights

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 255

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MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

'Don't ask,' end it

A federal judge had the legal courage to do what the Obama administration has been unable to do: bring an end to the military's discriminatory stance against gays.

A series of rulings by U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips in California have put the country on a long-overdue and accelerated course to finally repeal the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

After declaring that the 1993 policy was unconstitutional, Phillips on Tuesday rightfully rejected the government's request for an emergency stay on her order that prohibits the military from barring gays and lesbians from serving. She ruled last month that the ban violated the First Amendment rights of gays and lesbians—men and women willing to put their lives on the line to protect this country.

Already, the ruling has changed an institution that has resisted change for too long. Military recruiters have started accepting openly gay applicants.

The Defense Department also said it has halted mandatory dismissals of gays who refused to keep silent about their homosexuality or were outed by colleagues.

But because the policy could be reinstated, gay service men and women have been told not to disclose their sexual orientation while the status of the law is pending.

A federal appeals court on Wednesday granted a government request to temporarily freeze Phillips' order. That was disappointing.

More delays in repealing the policy only create more uncertainty. The administration should move to quickly end the policy rather than wage a prolonged fight in court.

The president has repeatedly said that he supports overturning the law. A measure sponsored by U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy, D-Pa., an Iraq veteran, would have repealed the 17-year-old ban but has stalled in Congress.

Even the military's top brass have given their support to lifting the antigay policy. But they don't want to implement a new directive until after a study due in December of how the policy change will affect the military.

In their request for a stay, government lawyers argued that lifting the ban would be disruptive to troops during a time of war. They also said the military needs additional time to draft new regulations and brief service members about the change.

That argument should not prevail, especially given the impact that the current policy has had on the military.

Thousands of service personnel have unfairly been dismissed. Some are now trying to reenlist, but there are no guarantees while the issue remains up in the air.

Polls show that most Americans support lifting the ban. The issue—a matter of equal rights—should be settled once and for all. It is time for the military to remove sexual-orientation barriers and set up guidelines that allow gays and lesbians to proudly and openly serve their country.

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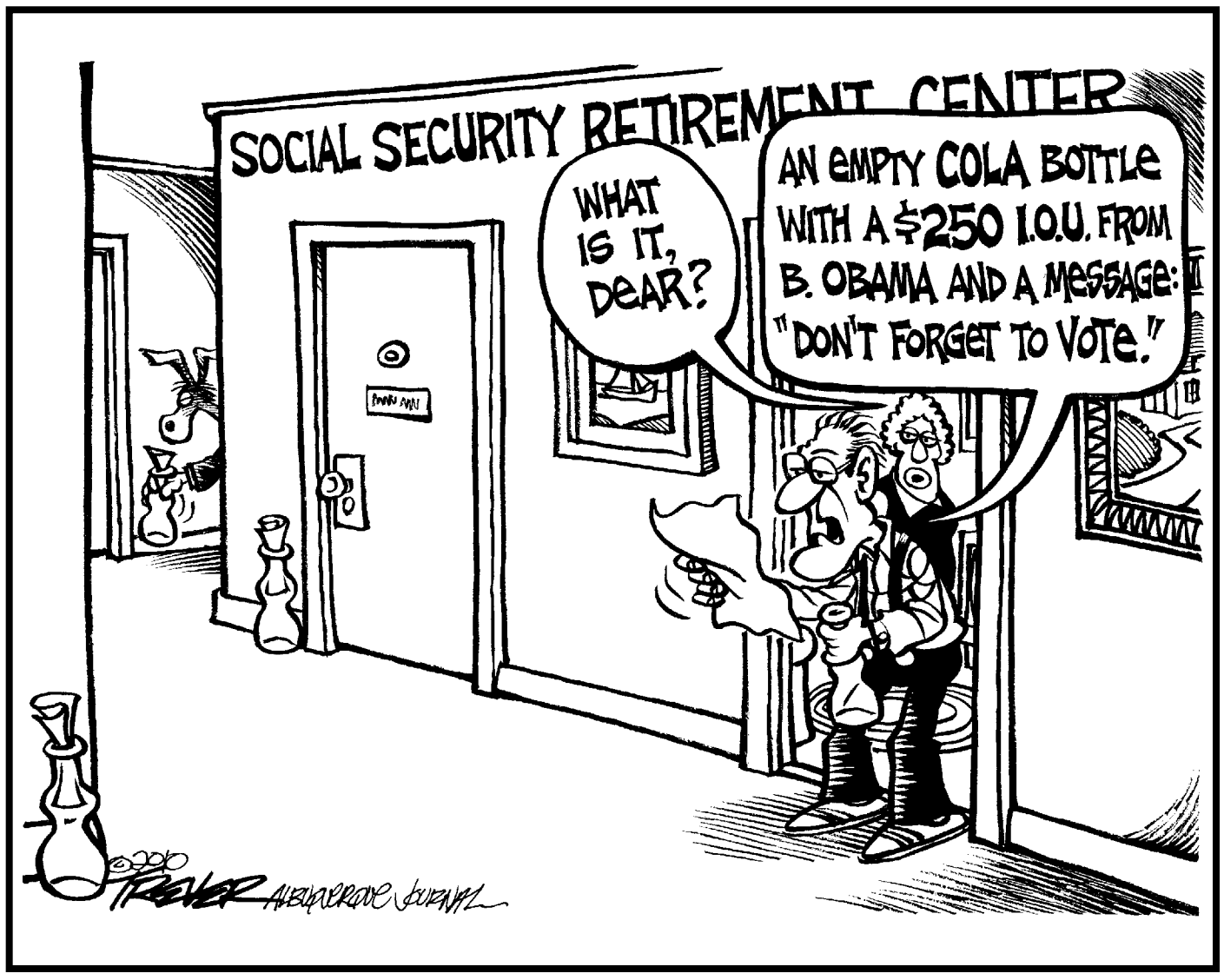
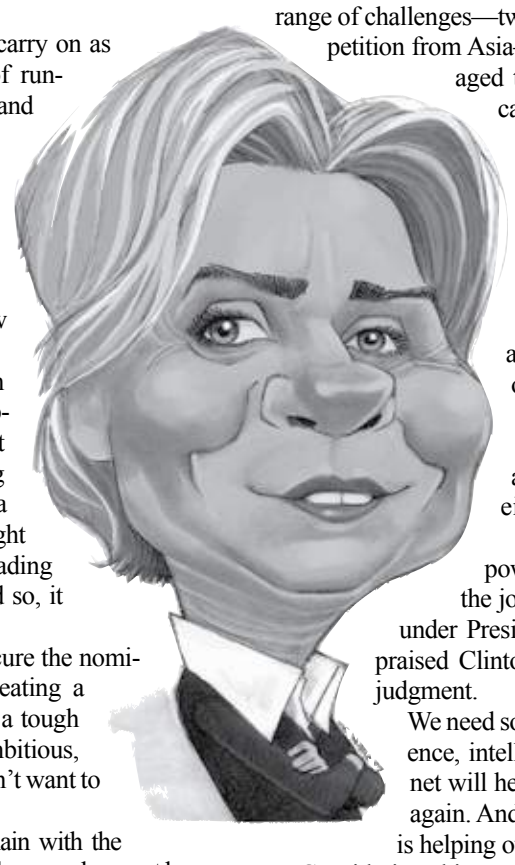

SOCIAL SECURITY RETIREMENT CENTER
WHAT IS IT, DEAR?
AN EMPTY COLA BOTTLE WITH A $250 I.O.U. FROM B. OBAMA AND A MESSAGE: "DON'T FORGET TO VOTE."
©2010 TREVER ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

Clinton is far more valuable as the secretary of state than as president

By NICHOLAS L. CAIN
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE INFORMATION SERVICES

CLAREMONT, Calif.—With President Obama's polling numbers at a low and the traditional start of the primary season now approaching, some have asked: should Secretary of State Hillary Clinton challenge the president for the Democratic nomination? My answer is an unequivocal no.

There are three reasons Clinton should carry on as part of Obama's administration instead of running in 2012. They are political, personal and national.



First to the political: According to opinion surveys by the Gallup organization, Obama's poll numbers are at a low point for his presidency. Although the president is roughly twice as popular as the Congress, his public approval has dipped below 50 percent.

And if a March CNN/Opinion Research Corp poll is to be believed, Clinton's approval rating is much stronger: Seven out of 10 Americans approve of her handling of foreign affairs, including, surprisingly, a majority of Republicans. Although this might cause a savvy politician to think about heading out to chase the nomination, if Clinton did so, it would be a calamity for the party.

An outbreak of intra-party combat to secure the nomination would harm the Democrats by creating a draining distraction as what's bound to be a tough race begins. Although Clinton is surely ambitious, she is also a life-long Democrat, and wouldn't want to cripple her party at such a key stage.

Party concerns aside, Clinton should remain with the Cabinet for her own best interests as well. With unemployment hovering near 10 percent, Clinton, as the nation's chief foreign policy-maker, has been shielded from public dissatisfaction over the economy. If she chooses to run in 2012, she will surely face this icy headwind straight in the face, undoubtedly to the detriment of her approval rating.

If running for the presidency is, in fact, on Clinton's to-do list, waiting another four years would not prevent her from running—and it might actually help her chances. If she decides to run in 2016, Clinton would be only 69 years old (the same age as Reagan when he took office).

And her work as America's chief foreign policy-maker would give her, to quote Bob Woodward, "an unmatched record of public service" and impeccable national security credentials.

Politics and personal goals aside, the key reason that Clinton should stay in her post is that she is bringing energy and intelligence to America's foreign policy. Although the United States faces a range of challenges—two wars, a recalcitrant Iran and serious competition from Asia—President Obama and Clinton have managed to sign a new START Treaty with Russia, cajole the Israelis and the Palestinians in to talking at least, and, have repaired relations with our allies in Europe.

Most important, Obama and Clinton have articulated a new vision for foreign policy: that we must use "smart power" instead of pre-emptive force. Smart power (based on work by Joseph Nye and Suzanne Nossel) means, in the words of Clinton, using the "full range of tools at our disposal—diplomatic, economic, military, political, legal and cultural" in an integrated fashion to achieve our foreign policy goals.

Does Clinton's championing of smart power mean that she is not tough enough to do the job? Condoleezza Rice, the secretary of state under President Bush, doesn't think so. Rice recently praised Clinton for her toughness, patriotism and good judgment.

We need someone with Clinton's wide-ranging experience, intelligence and energy. Staying with the Cabinet will help her chances should she run for president again. And, by helping the Obama administration, she is helping our nation during a perilous time.

Considering this, I would advise the secretary to stay put: the president and the nation need her right where she is.

Nicholas L. Cain is a research assistant at Claremont Graduate University's School of Politics and Economics. This essay is available to McClatchy-Tribune News Service subscribers. McClatchy-Tribune did not subsidize the writing of this column; the opinions are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the views of McClatchy-Tribune or its editors.

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What triggers the suicide bomber

By ROBERT PAPE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

On Oct. 23, 1983, a suicide bomber drove a truck laden with explosives into the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, killing 241 Marines as they slept. This dark chapter of American history was one of the country's first experiences with suicide attack since the Japanese kamikaze pilots during World War II. The attack, combined with the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut that April and a sustained terrorism campaign waged by the group that came to be known as Hezbollah, was a major reason President Reagan ordered American forces to leave Lebanon in 1984.

The barracks bombing is perhaps the most well known attack in Lebanon during that period, but it was far from an isolated incident. Hezbollah's campaign of suicide terrorism, mainly against American, French and Israeli military forces along with Western political targets, killed about 900 people. And the attacks would serve as a major inspiration for future terrorist groups that adopted similar tactics, most notably Hamas, al-Qaeda and the Tamil Tigers.

At the time, the prevailing narrative was that these attacks in Lebanon were the result of Shiite Muslim fundamentalism. It has become a common refrain over the last several decades that religion, and Islam in particular, is the primary cause of suicide bombings. This is an easy, convenient and clear argument that fits with the United States' approach to the war on terror over the last decade.

There is just one problem with this argument: It's wrong.

Research I and my colleagues conducted at the University of Chicago Project on Security and Terrorism, in which we analyzed each of the more than 2,200 suicide attacks that have taken place throughout the world since 1980, shows that though other factors matter, the primary driver of suicide terrorism is foreign occupation.

In Lebanon, for example, of the 32 successful suicide attackers from 1982 through 1989 whose ideology was identifiable, 22 were communists and socialists with no commitment to religious extremism; five were Christian. Religion served as an auxiliary recruiting tool, but the root cause of the attacks was foreign occupation, and the attacks were designed to coerce the occupying forces — Israel, France and the United States — to withdraw.

The United States has not learned the lessons from Lebanon and is failing to realize that prolonged troop deployments abroad are leading to an increase in suicide attacks and violence against troops and civilians.

What we should be doing is asking whether our military presence in Afghanistan and continued campaign of drone strikes in Pakistan are making us safer. Unfortunately, our research suggests just the opposite.

A more effective approach would be to revert to a policy of working with local governments and institutions and selectively using air power and special forces to accomplish important military objectives. This is an intermediate approach that is neither "cutting and running" nor "staying and dying." It is a way to achieve political objectives without subjecting U.S. forces to unnecessary harm and without further inflaming local passions that in turn lead to a rise of hatred and violence against an occupying power.

Many worry that shifting to such a policy would embolden the terrorists. However, Hezbollah suicide attackers did not follow the Americans to New York, or the French to Paris or even the Israelis to Tel Aviv after those nations left Lebanon. Since the last Israeli ground forces left in May 2000, there has not been a single Hezbollah suicide attack, not even in the summer of 2006, during the three-week air war between Israel and Hezbollah. To be sure, ordinary terrorism has continued, but causing far fewer deaths than suicide attacks.

The U.S. has important strategic interests in Afghanistan and the region and in the Middle East, and it should use all instruments of national power to achieve them. But to continue on the current path is to ignore the causal link between foreign occupation and terrorism, which will make it less likely that we will be able to eradicate this threat in the years ahead.

Robert Pape, a professor of political science at the University of Chicago and an expert on terrorism and international security, is the author of the just-released Cutting the Fuse: The Explosion of Global Suicide Terrorism and How to Stop It. *He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

Dems may be headed for double whammy

By CARL LEUBSDORF
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Democrats may be headed for a double whammy at the polls next month.

Besides significant losses in the 2010 midterm elections, results in key states could make it harder for them to recover in the 2012 congressional contests.

That's because projected Republican gubernatorial and legislative gains could enable the GOP to create more favorable U.S. House districts in many states where the census will require changes.

The Democrats already face an uphill fight two years from now to defend some U.S. Senate seats they narrowly won in 2006. So even if President Barack Obama wins a second term, he could easily face an unfriendly Congress dominated by political opponents.

The shape of the 2012 Senate map stems from the Democrats' 2006 successes. As a result, Republicans hold only 10 of the 33 seats now scheduled to be contested, including Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's Texas seat.

Today, few of those 10 appear vulnerable to Democratic takeover. But the dynamics in several, including Texas, could change with Republican primary challenges from the conservative tea party groups that defeated several GOP establishment candidates this year.

By contrast, several Democratic incumbents could face stiff fights, including Sens. James Webb of Virginia, Ben Nelson of Nebraska and Jon Tester of Montana.

But the biggest fallout from anticipated 2010 Republican successes could be in the House, damaging Democratic chances of regaining seats they lose this year, even if the economy picks up and Obama mounts a successful re-election campaign.

That's because those expected gains will coincide with the 2010 census, requiring the redrawing of legislative and congressional districts to meet population changes.

"The timing for a swing-back election could not be worse, assuming this is a good election for Republicans nationally," said Matt Angle, a Texas Democratic strategist. "It will allow them to use the redistricting process to inflict damage that could last for 10 years."

Final census figures won't be released until later this year, but estimates have Southern and Western states gaining 12 House seats, including four in Texas and two in Florida. Northeastern and Midwestern states would lose a like number, including two each in New York and Ohio.

Electing more Republican governors and state legislators could enable that party to control redistricting in many states and maximize Republican members of Congress.

In similar circumstances a decade ago, the GOP added multiple seats in states like Michigan and Pennsylvania, which lost seats overall, and Texas and Florida, which gained them. This would be a third consecutive decade in which Republicans benefited from census-induced reapportionment.

The poster child for the GOP's post-2000 redistricting success, of course, was Texas. Under the leadership of former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, it switched the state's House delegation from 17-15 Democratic to 21-11 Republican and eliminated five Democratic members.

This time, because much of Texas' population growth has been Hispanic, there has been talk of adding two Hispanic majority seats likely to be Democratic and two white majority seats likely to be Republican.

But Democrat Chet Edwards' Central Texas seat may well go Republican this year. Some Republicans believe they could gain another seat by the way they redraw districts, because the Democratic drive to impact redistricting by retaking the Texas House seems likely to fall short.

Another potentially significant national factor is California's vote on two ballot issues that could assign redistricting to an independent commission, rather than the Democratic-controlled legislature. While a significant issue will be accommodating California's burgeoning Hispanic population, a non-partisan solution could reduce the current 34-19 Democratic majority.

The headlines on Election Day almost certainly will focus on Congress and, secondarily, governorships. But the less publicized battles for control of state legislatures could have the larger long-term impact.

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News. *Readers may write to him via e-mail at: carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.*

The courage of 'Conviction'

By GREGORY BRIGHT
THE PROGRESSIVE MEDIA PROJECT

The new movie "Conviction," starring Hilary Swank, highlights a great injustice: how easy it is to put innocent people behind bars. I know because I spent 27 1/2 years in the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola for a murder I did not commit, based on a bad eyewitness identification.

"Conviction" tells the story of Betty Anne Waters, who put herself through law school with the sole purpose of exonerating her brother, Kenny Waters. Kenny Waters' 18-year imprisonment was horrifying and chilling, and mistakes like the one that put him in prison happen all too often.

Eyewitness misidentification played a role in more than 75 percent of the first 220 wrongful convictions that were overturned through DNA testing. To date, there have been 259 exonerations based on DNA testing; the other leading causes include inaccurate forensics, false confessions, police or prosecutorial misconduct, and bad lawyering by defense attorneys.

Most wrongfully convicted people don't have adequate legal representation, don't have a sister who dedicates her life to the cause, and don't have money or contacts or any way to go up against an aggressive prosecutorial system. Many innocent people are handed life sentences without the possibility of parole.

I was one of them.

I was convicted of second-degree murder based solely on the unsubstantiated and uncorroborated testimony of an "eyewitness" who did not see the actual shooting. A jury spent 13 minutes deliberating my case. I was sentenced to serve the remainder of my natural life at hard labor without the possibility of parole.

I was poor, uneducated and naive, and kept believing the system would correct itself. It did—after 27 1/2 years.

Kenny Waters and his sister battled through the court system for 18 years before proving his innocence.

And yet, Kenny and I are two of the "lucky" ones. We both—eventually—had help from the Innocence Project, an organization dedicated to representing wrongfully convicted inmates.

We must stop wrongful convictions.

We should demand that our district attorneys implement procedures that have been proven to reduce the number of eyewitness misidentifications. Two of these include ensuring the person administering the lineup does not know who the suspect is and making sure "fillers" (non-suspects included in a lineup) resemble the eyewitnesses' description of the perpetrator. These simple steps would have helped me, Kenny and so many other wrongfully convicted men and women.

Mark my words: There still are innocent people in prison. For many of them, these reforms may already be too late. I urge you to see "Conviction."

Gregory Bright is assistant director of education and outreach for Innocence Project New Orleans. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive *magazine. Readers may write to the author at:* Progressive Media Project*, 409 East Main Street, Madison, Wis. 53703; e-mail: pmproj@progressive.org; Web site: www.progressive.org. For information on PMP's funding, please visit http://www.progressive.org/pmpabout.html#anchorsupport.*

Letter to the Editor

Thank you

We, the Friends of the Mariana Islands family, wish to express our deepest appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to all of Camilo D. Laoeng's friends who gave their support and cared for him and the community of Saipan who welcomed him to their group. Camilo was one of the most active member of Beautify CNMI! and he was the most active board member of FMI. Camilo loved and was always happy to serve the community. He loved Saipan and embraced the people he worked with as his family and we did the same as well. We are grateful for his volunteer work and the care and interest he showed each one of us.

Your thoughtful prayers and words of consolation lessen our pain and sorrow for our loss.

Thank you so much and may God bless us all.

Marites Aquino Castillo
FMI president

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

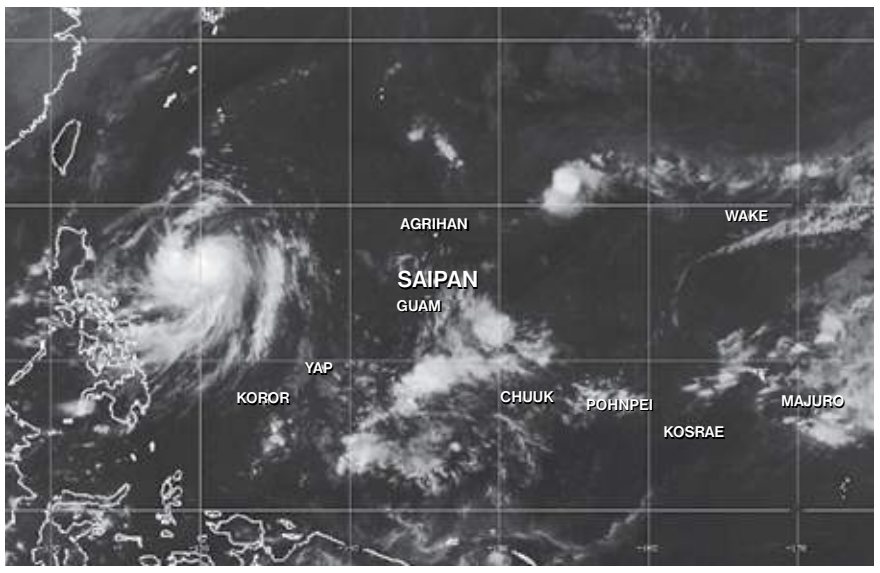
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼76
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲64	▼54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲53	▼35
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲76	▼59
Honolulu	Showers	▲86	▼76
London	Showers	▲56	▼40
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲72	▼54
Manila	Thundershowers	▲84	▼76
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87	▼76
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼64
Osaka	Sunny	▲64	▼50
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲54	▼33
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼46
Rome	Showers	▲63	▼47
Salem	Showers	▲53	▼37
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲54	▼37
Tokyo	Sunny	▲60	▼52
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲76	▼70

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Chaba (16W) is centered well west of the Marianas near 16N132E. Chaba is moving west-northwest at 6 mph with maximum sustained winds of 40 mph. Showers and isolated thunderstorms are found between 12N and 18N west of 134E. For additional information refer to National Weather Service public advisories issued under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM and JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. A surface trough curves northeastward from 4N146E to 11N154E to end at 16N156E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found west of Chuuk in an area bounded by a line from 12N148E to 6N144E to 3N147E to 5N151E to 11N151E back to 12N148E. A stationary front extends east-southeastward from northwest of the Marianas at 25N141E to 21N151E then curves northeastward to north of Wake Island at 22N166E to beyond 25N168E. Scattered showers are found within 70 miles of 23N146E and 21N154E and north of a line from 21N166E to 21N173E to 25N178E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of a line from 7N165E to 15N169E. Kwajalein and Majuro lie on the southern edge of this area.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

3:19 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
10:19 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
3:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
8:34 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Thursday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM
Saturday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	8:12 PM	8:41 AM
Wednesday	9:07 PM	9:37 AM
Thursday	10:05 PM	10:31 AM
Friday	11:04 PM	11:24 AM
Saturday		12:14 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
C09316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/C0596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Employers looking at health insurance options

WASHINGTON (AP)—The new health care law wasn't supposed to undercut employer plans that have provided most people in the U.S. with coverage for generations.

But last week a leading manufacturer told workers their costs will jump partly because of the law. Also, a Democratic governor laid out a scheme for employers to get out of health care by shifting workers into taxpayer-subsidized insurance markets that open in 2014.

While it's too early to proclaim the demise of job-based coverage, corporate number crunchers are looking at options that could lead to major changes.

"The economics of dropping existing coverage is about to become very attractive to many employers, both public and private," said Gov. Phil Bredesen, D-Tenn.

That's just not going to happen, White House officials say.

"The absolute certainty about the Affordable Care Act is that for many, many employers who cover millions of people, it increases the incentives for them to offer coverage," said Jason Furman, an economic adviser to President Barack Obama.

Yet at least one major employer has shifted a greater share of plan costs to workers, and others are weighing the pros and cons of eventually forcing employees to strike out on their own.

"I don't think you are going to hear anybody publicly say 'We've made a decision to drop insurance,' " said Paul Keckley, executive director of the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions. "What we are hearing in our meetings is, 'We don't want to be the first one to drop benefits, but we would be the fast second.' We are hearing that a lot." Deloitte is a major accounting and consulting firm

"My conclusion on all of this is that it is a huge roll of the dice," said James Klein, president of the American Benefits Council, which represents big company benefits administrators. "It could work out well and build on the employer-based system, or it could begin to dismantle the employer-based system." Employer health benefits have been a middle-class mainstay since World War II, when companies were encouraged to offer health insurance instead of pay raises. About 150 million workers and family members are now covered.

When lawmakers debated the legislation, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projected it would only have minimal impact on employer plans. About 3 million fewer people would be covered through the job, but they'd be able to get insurance elsewhere.

Two provisions in the new law are leading companies to look at their plans in a different light.

One is a hefty tax on high-cost health insurance aimed at the most generous coverage. Although the "Cadillac tax" doesn't hit until 2018, companies may have to disclose their exposure to investors well before that. A Boeing spokeswoman said concerns about the tax were partly behind a 50 percent increase in insurance deductibles the company just announced.

The tax is 40 percent of the value of a plan above $10,200 for individual coverage and $27,500 for a family plan. Family coverage now averages about $13,800.

White House adviser Furman said blaming a cost increase next year on a tax that won't take effect for eight years "stretches credibility very far past the breaking point."

Bigger questions loom over the new insurance markets that will be set up under the law.

AP

In this Jan. 13, 2010, file photo Democratic Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen speaks in Nashville, Tenn.

Geithner in China for talks amid currency tensions

BEIJING (AP)—U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner held hastily arranged talks Sunday with a top Chinese finance official amid currency tensions after a weekend pledge by finance leaders to rebalance the global economy.

Geithner

Qishan

The governments said Geithner and Vice Premier Wang Qishan exchanged views on U.S.-Chinese economic relations at an airport in the eastern city of Qingdao but no details were released. They said the two also discussed preparations for a Nov. 11-12 meeting of leaders of the Group of 20 major economies.

Beijing faces mounting pressure from U.S. lawmakers to ease controls they say hold down its yuan currency, boosting China's trade surplus and costing American jobs. Legislation passed Sept. 30 by the U.S. House of Representatives would allow Washington to sanction governments that manipulate their currency for trade advantage. The Senate is due to take up the measure after November elections.

Plans for the Geithner-Wang meeting were announced Saturday as G-20 finance officials and central bankers wrapped up their meeting in Gyeongju, South Korea. It suggested the two sides decided higher-level contact was required after Geithner was in Gyeongju with China's finance minister, Xie Xuren, and other officials.

The G-20 officials pledged Saturday to avoid currency manipulation.

"Countries with significantly undervalued exchange rates committed to move towards more market-determined exchange-rate systems that reflect economic fundamentals, as China is now doing," Geithner told reporters Saturday.

Sunday's meeting was the second impromptu meeting between Geithner and Wang after the two held talks at the Beijing airport in April as the Treasury secretary flew home from India amid a similar spike in tensions over the yuan.

Beijing promised a more flexible exchange rate in June but the yuan rose by only about 2 percent against the dollar in the following three months. Its appreciation has speeded up since House passage of the currency bill, suggesting Beijing is trying to defuse pressure on the Senate to approve it.

On Oct. 15, Geithner's department delayed issuing a report required by Congress about which countries are manipulating their currencies. Instead, officials praised the recent appreciation of the yuan but said it needed to continue. They said the currency report would not be issued until after the G-20 talks.

The G-20 finance ministers and central bankers promised to avoid debilitating currency devaluations and reduce trade and financial imbalances and to give China and other major developing countries a bigger role in managing the global economy.

Govt proposing that many trucks improve efficiency

WASHINGTON (AP)—Future tractor-trailers, school buses, delivery vans, garbage trucks and heavy-duty pickup trucks must do better at the pump under first-ever fuel efficiency rules coming from the Obama administration. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Transportation Department are moving ahead with a proposal for medium- and heavy-duty trucks, beginning with those sold in the 2014 model year and into the 2018 model year.

The plan is expected to seek about a 20 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and fuel consumption from longhaul trucks, according to people familiar with the plan. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they did not want to speak publicly before the official announcement, expected Monday.

Overall, the proposal is expected to seek reductions of 10 percent to 20 percent in fuel consumption and emissions based on the vehicle's size. Large tractor-trailers tend to be driven up to 150,000 miles a year, making them ripe for improved miles per gallon.

The rules will cover big rig tractor-trailers, "vocational trucks" such as garbage trucks and transit and school buses, and work trucks such as heavy-duty versions of the Ford F-Series, Dodge Ram and Chevrolet Silverado.

The White House has pushed for tougher fuel economy standards across the nation's fleet as a way to reduce dependence on oil and cut greenhouse gas emissions tied to global warming.

The fleet of new cars, pickup trucks and SUVs will need to reach 35.5 mpg by 2016, and the government is developing plans for future vehicle models that could push the standards to 47 mpg to 62 mpg by 2025.

Medium-duty and heavy-duty trucks are much less fuel-efficient than conventional automobiles; the fleet of tractor-trailers typically get about 6 mpg to 7 mpg, while work trucks can achieve 10 to 11 mpg. But they still consume about 20 percent of the transportation fuel in the U.S.

Margo Oge, director of the EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality, told reporters last week the proposed rules would be a "win-win situation for the country, the economy, climate change and energy security." She declined to release details.

President Barack Obama was joined by truck manufacturers in the Rose Garden in May when he said the government would release the first-ever proposed standards for greenhouse gas emissions and fuel efficiency for large trucks this year. Obama estimated then that the fuel efficiency of tractor-trailers could be improved by 25 percent using existing technologies.

"This is going to bring down the costs of transporting—for transporting goods, serving businesses and consumers alike," Obama said on May 21, flanked by executives with Daimler Trucks, Volvo, Cummins and Navistar, and trucking industry and union officials.

The improvements in fuel efficiency will come through a combination of more efficient engines, improved aerodynamics and better tires.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

IMF: Mideast growth rising, but more jobs needed

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—Mideast economies are likely to grow roughly twice as fast over the next two years as they did in 2009, but the region must do more to diversify its economies and create jobs, the International Monetary Fund said Sunday. The Washington-based body forecasts the economy will grow by 4.2 percent this year and 4.8 percent next year in the 22-nation region stretching from North Africa through Pakistan. That compares with growth of 2.3 percent last year as the region struggled with lower oil revenues and other effects stemming from the global economic crisis. Overall, the IMF said in its latest regional economic outlook that the Middle East is enjoying "a generally robust recovery" thanks to higher oil prices and government policies designed to mitigate the effects of the worldwide downturn.

Strong yen, waning demand erode Japan's exports

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's exports grew at their slowest pace this year in September, hit by cooling foreign demand and a strong yen. Exports climbed 14.4 percent from a year earlier to 5.8 trillion yen ($72 billion), the Ministry of Finance said Monday. Imports rose 9.9 percent to 5.04 trillion yen. The September figure underlined weakening global demand for Japanese goods. Earlier in the year, Japan's exports enjoyed stellar 50 to 60 percent growth as they bounced back from the previous year's slump amid robust growth in Asia.

Saudi PetroraRabigh says outage halts refinery ops

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Saudi petrochemical giant PetroRabigh says an electrical outage has halted operations at its plant. The Rabigh Refining and Petrochemical Company said Sunday that an interruption in power supplies a day earlier had affected most of the units at the plant that produces petrochemical products for plastics. PetroRabigh, a joint venture between Saudi Aramco and Japan's Sumitomo Chemical, said it was working on restoring power supplies and operations at its facility along the Red Sea coast. The company did not say when it expected operations to resume.

Nation

Governors' races offer some of sharpest skirmishes

WASHINGTON (AP)—Some of the sharpest bare-knuckle skirmishes this election season are the races for governor, especially in states shouldering the highest unemployment rates and largest tax increases.

Many also are important in presidential elections, and both parties are pouring millions of dollars into statehouse races in the closing days of the campaign. There are now 26 Democratic governors and 24 Republicans. A record 37 governorships are up for grabs on Nov. 2; more half are contests where an incumbent isn't running.

Polls show Democrats risk losing around a dozen seats, including those in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Iowa, Wisconsin, Maine and New Mexico. But they also have a shot at pickups in four or five states, including California and possibly Florida.

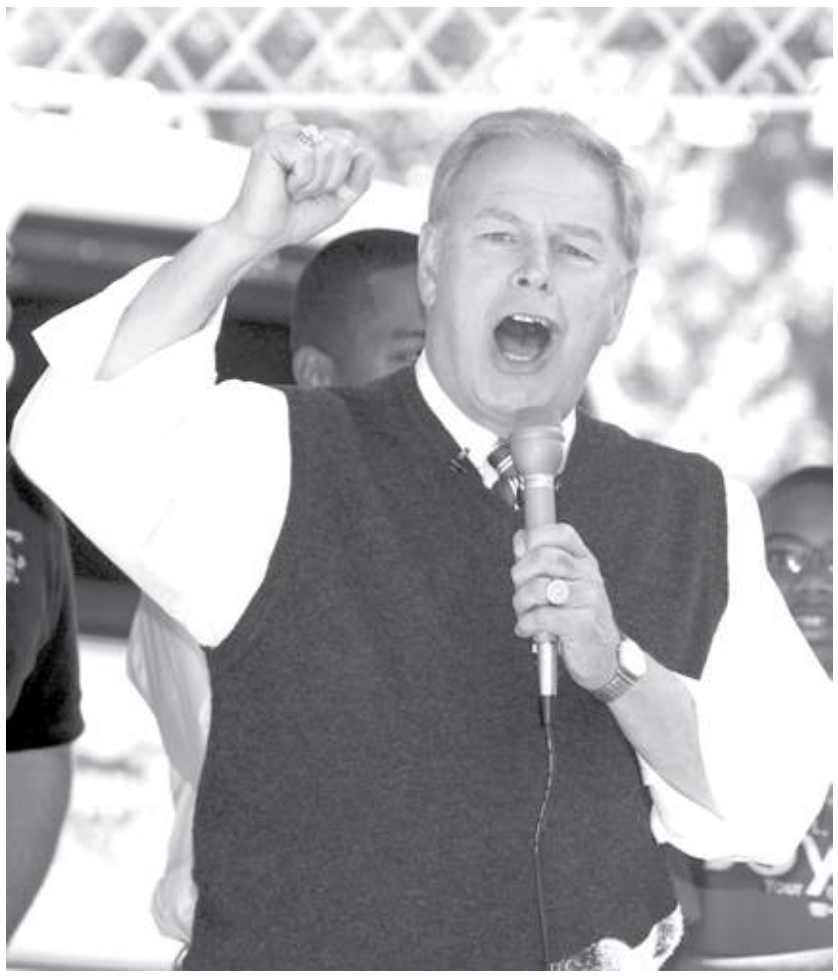
"I feel pretty certain that we'll get (to) 30 or more governors..., I suspect we'll get at least 30," said Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour, head of the Republican Governors Association.

His counterpart at the Democratic Governors Association, Delaware Gov. Jack Markell, said voters are looking for results rather than to punish one party or the other.

"I am confident that voters will gravitate toward the governors who have produced results, and the candidates who offer plans that will do the same," Markell said. "When budgets are tight, choices become a very clear reflection of priorities."

Unlike the federal government, they can't spend money they don't have or print it when they run out. Governors and state legislatures had few options when they were among the first to be hit by the wave of anti-government anger over the economy.

While lawmakers in Washington have yet to decide on Bush-era tax cuts that are due to expire at year's end, states and local governments have been raising taxes, laying off teachers and other public servants and cutting services—big time.



AP

In this Sept. 25, 2010, Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland speaks in Columbus, Ohio. Despite keen national attention to the fight for control of Congress, some of the sharpest bare-knuckle skirmishes of this midterm election season have been for governor's mansions—especially in states shouldering the highest unemployment rates and largest tax increases.

In the budget year that ended last month, 29 states increased taxes by a total of $24 billion, the largest amount in more than 30 years, according to the bipartisan National Governors Association.

Of that $24 billion, California accounted for about $10 billion and New York $6 billion. Most of the rest of tax increases were in Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin.

Joblessness in many states is far worse than the nation's 9.6 percent unemployment rate. Leading the pack as of August: Nevada, at 14.1 percent, closely followed by Michigan at 13.1 percent, California at 12.4 percent, Rhode Island at 11.8 percent and Florida at 11.7 percent. South Carolina, Oregon, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Georgia, Kentucky and Mississippi also had unemployment rates at or above 10 percent.

Obama is likely to focus on deficit in next 2 years

WASHINGTON (AP)—Preparing for political life after a bruising election, President Barack Obama will put greater emphasis on fiscal discipline, a nod to a nation sick of spending and to a Congress poised to become more Republican, conservative and determined to stop him.

He is already giving clues about how he will govern in the last two years of his term.

Obama will try to make gains on deficit reduction, education and energy. He will enforce his health care and financial overhauls and try to protect them from repeal should Republicans win control of Capitol Hill. He will use executive authority when blocked by Congress, and steel for scrutiny and investigations if the GOP is in charge.

Obama

While trying to save money, Obama will have to decide whether to bend to Republican and growing Democratic pressure to extend Bush-era tax cuts, even for the wealthy, that expire at year's end. Obama wants to extend them for people making less than $200,000 and married couples making less than $250,000, but a broader extension is gaining favor with an increasing number of Democrats.

Moving to the fore will be a more serious focus on how to balance the federal budget and pay for the programs that keep sinking the country into debt.

In other times, that discussion might seem like dry, Washington talk. Not now. People are fed up with federal spending, particularly as many remain jobless.

The White House refuses to talk about how the president will have to adjust his style or goals if power in Congress tilts right, for fear of undermining what Obama is still campaigning hard to do: keeping Democrats in power. There is no conceding as Obama recruits voters and rallies supporters all the way to Nov. 2.

Yet if polls and analysts are on target, Republicans are poised to win big, possibly taking control of the House and gaining seats in the Senate, where Obama's party already lacks the votes to overcome bill-killing delay tactics. Obama probably will operate in an environment with even fewer moderate Republicans.

The president has signaled that at the start of the new year, he will speak more directly to the country about the financial choices ahead. "If we're going to get serious about the deficit, then we're going to have to look at everything: entitlements, defense spending, revenues. ... And that's going to be a tough conversation," he said.

It's one that will be framed by a bipartisan debt commission, whose ideas this December will give Obama political cover on where to suggest unpopular cuts.

Unsealed Calif. church docs show abuse allegations

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Attorneys for nearly 150 people who claim sexual abuse by Roman Catholic priests made nearly 10,000 pages of previously sealed internal church documents public Sunday, revealing at least one previously unknown decades-old case in which a priest under police investigation was allowed to leave the U.S. after the Diocese of San Diego intervened.

After a three-year legal battle over the Diocese of San Diego's internal records, a retired San Diego Superior Court judge ruled late Friday that they could be made public. The records are from the personnel files of 48 priests who were either credibly accused or convicted of sexual abuse or were named in a civil lawsuit.

The 144 plaintiffs settled with the diocese in 2007 for nearly $200 million, but the agreement stipulated that an independent judge would review the priests' sealed personnel records and determine what could be made public.

The files show what the diocese knew about abusive priests, starting decades before any allegations became public, and that some church leaders shuffled priests from parish to parish or overseas despite credible complaints against them.

"We encourage all Catholics, all members of the community, to look for these documents," attorney Anthony DeMarco said at a news conference. "These documents demonstrate years and years and decades of concerted action that has allowed this community's children to be victimized, and it is not until the community looks at these documents that this cycle is ever going to be ended."

At least one of the priests, Gustavo Benson, is still in active ministry in the Diocese of Ensenada in Mexico, DeMarco said. In a 2002 interview with The Press-Enterprise of Riverside, Benson said he ministered to children there but had not done anything inappropriate. It wasn't immediately known what Benson's position at the diocese is now.

A phone message left Sunday night at the office of the Archbishop of Tijuana who oversees the Ensenada diocese was not immediately returned.

In at least one instance, the files included documented abuse by a priest whose name had not before surfaced in any lawsuit or criminal case, the Rev. Luis Eugene de Francisco, who was originally from Colombia. Police investigated de Francisco for allegedly abusing children, but the diocese convinced authorities to drop the case if the priest would return immediately to his Colombian diocese and never return to the U.S.

"In early August 1963, Father was placed under arrest by the civil police of the City of San Diego for violation of the State Penal Code," then-Bishop Charles F. Buddy wrote the Colombian bishop in the Diocese of Cali. "At that time, arrangements were made between this Chancery and the civil authorities of San Diego in which, if Father left the United States with the promise never to return, the charges against Father would be set aside by Civil Law."

Buddy wrote that de Francisco had crossed the border at Tijuana, Mexico, and was "directed to return directly to the Diocese of Cali."

ACROSS THE NATION

Police: New York man helped missing girl run away

GLENVILLE, N.Y. (AP)—Police in upstate New York say a man who helped search for a missing girl actually helped her run away. The Times Union newspaper reported John Kwiatkowski of Amsterdam, N.Y., was arrested Saturday and charged with obstructing governmental administration, a misdemeanor. Police in Glenville, N.Y. said the charge was related to an Amber alert issued last week for a missing girl. Police say 36-year-old Kwiatkowski helped hand out fliers during the search. But police say he actually provided the girl with transportation, clothes, money and a place to stay at a relative's home in Saratoga County. Police found the girl after she had been missing for four days.

Worker at California hospital killed at facility

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—Authorities say an employee at Napa State Hospital in California has been killed by a man confined to the facility. Sheriff's Capt. Tracey Stuart says 54-year-old Donna Gross was found dead in an enclosed courtyard area of the state psychiatric hospital around 7 p.m. Saturday. The Concord resident had worked as a psychiatric technician at the facility for 14 years. Shortly after finding Gross dead, deputies arrested 37-year-old Jess Massey. Stuart says Massey has been confined to the State Hospital system since 1993, when he was declared insane. Massey was removed from the facility and is being held at Napa County Jail on suspicion of murder.

NYC cop getting her hair done thwarts salon robber

NEW YORK (AP)—New York police say an armed man who was trying to rob a beauty salon in Brooklyn exchanged gunfire with an off-duty police officer who was getting her hair done. Police say the man entered Sabine's Hallway beauty salon Saturday evening and demanded the customers hand over cash and possessions. Authorities say the 50-year-old off-duty officer identified herself and ordered him to drop his gun. They say the man shot at her and missed and she returned fire. It wasn't clear whether he was hit. Police say the suspect fled on foot. No injuries were reported in the salon.

Asia

Bomb kills 5 people at Sufi shrine in Pakistan

MULTAN, Pakistan (AP)—A bomb planted on a motorcycle exploded at the gate of a famous Sufi shrine in central Pakistan during morning prayers Monday, killing at least five people, said officials.

The bombing at the Farid Shakar Ganj shrine in Punjab province was the latest in a string of attacks targeting Sufi shrines in Pakistan. Islamist militants often target Sufis, whose mystical practices clash with their hardline interpretations of Islam.

The dead from Monday's attack included at least one woman, said Maher Aslam Hayat, a senior government official in Pak Pattan district where the shrine is located. At least 13 others were wounded by the explosion, he said.

The blast damaged several shops outside the shrine, said Hayat. But the shrine itself, which is dedicated to a 12th century Sufi saint, was largely unscathed, he said.

Pakistan is 95 percent Muslim, and the majority practice Sufi-influenced Islam

Two suspected suicide bombers attacked the most beloved Sufi shrine in Pakistan's largest city, Karachi, earlier this month, killing at least eight people and wounding 65 others. A suicide attack in July killed 47 people at the nation's most revered Sufi shrine, Data Darbar in the eastern city of Lahore. That attack infuriated many Pakistanis, who saw it as an unjustified assault on peaceful civilians.

Pakistan has waged a heated military campaign against Islamist militants at war with the state, but it has resisted U.S. pressure to expand its effort to target Taliban militants based the North Waziristan tribal area along the Afghan border who regularly attack foreign troops in Afghanistan.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said Sunday his country will deal with North Waziristan on its own timeline despite the latest effort by the U.S. to push the country forward by offering a new $2 billion military aid package.

"We have our own priorities. We have our own sense of timing," said Qureshi after returning from high-level strategic talks in Washington where the aid package was announced.

The U.S. believes an operation in North Waziristan is key to success in the Afghan war because the area serves as the main base for the Haqqani network—a militant group that military officials have said poses the greatest threat to troops in Afghanistan.

Pakistan has resisted taking action. Analysts say the country is reluctant to target militants it has historical ties with and who could be useful allies in Afghanistan once foreign troops withdraw.

The Haqqani network is led by Jalaluddin Haqqani and his son Siraj. The elder Haqqani was closely allied with Pakistan during the war against the Soviets in Afghanistan in the 1990s.

AP

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton meets with Pakistani Foreign Minister Mahmood Qureshi, Friday, Oct. 22, 2010, at the State Department in Washington.

SKorea to send 1st food aid to NKorea in 2 years

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea prepared Monday to send 5,000 tons of rice to flood victims in North Korea in its first humanitarian rice shipment to its communist neighbor since a conservative, pro-U.S. government took office in Seoul in 2008.

For a decade, South Korea was a major donor of food to North Korea before President Lee Myung-bak halted unconditional assistance following his inauguration in early 2008 with a tough line on Pyongyang. Lee's government also drastically slashed trade with North Korea after tension spiked over March's deadly sinking of a South Korean warship blamed on Pyongyang.

The two Koreas remain technically at war, since their 1950-53 conflict ended with a ceasefire, not a peace treaty.

Recently, however, signs of a thaw have been emerging on the divided Korean peninsula, with Pyongyang making a series of conciliatory gestures such as releasing South Korean and American detainees and proposing the resumption of stalled joint projects. South Korea, meanwhile, promised last month to send 10 billion won ($8.5 million) in flood aid to the North.

On Monday, a freighter carrying 5,000 tons of rice was to leave the southern Gusan port for the Chinese city of Dandong near the border with North Korea. Chinese trucks are to deliver those rice to flood victims in the northwestern North Korean city of Sinuiju by mid-November, according to Seoul's Red Cross, which handles the government-financed shipment.

Heavy flooding swamped farmland, houses and public buildings in Sinuiju in August. An estimated 80,000-90,000 people were affected by the flooding, and the 5,000 tons of rice can feed about 100,000 people for 100 days, Red Cross officials say.

"It's a response to the North's conciliatory measures," said Kim Yong-hyun, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University. "I can say it's a small but considerably meaningful start of assistance to North Korea."

Lee's two liberal predecessors seeking reconciliation with North Korea had sent about 300,000-400,000 tons of rice to North Korea annually. Lee, however, suspended such unconditional aid linking it to progress in the North's denuclearization process. Rice is a key stable for both Koreas.

Also Monday, another cargo ship carrying 3 million instant cup noodles is also to leave for Dandong from Incheon port, west of Seoul, to deliver them to Sinuiju, Red Cross official Jung Jun-young said. Cement and medicines will also be delivered to North Korea by December, he said.

The North's latest conciliatory gestures showed how it badly needs aid to recover from the flooding damage and the regime wants to provide a livelihood for its people as it tries to maintain stability while it undergoes its succession process, Kim said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Rain drenches China as Megi weakens to depression

BEIJING (AP)—Torrential rains drenched China's southeastern coast as once-powerful Typhoon Megi weakened to a tropical depression Sunday and more than 300,000 evacuees waited to return to their battered homes. Megi has dumped up to 13 inches (33 centimeters) of rain on Chinese coastal villages after hitting the mainland Saturday. News reports described extensive damage to fishing boats and shellfish beds in Fujian province, where more heavy rain was falling Sunday. A super typhoon at its peak strength, Megi cut a swath of destruction through the Philippines and Taiwan in the past week. Landslides and flooding in Taiwan killed as many as 31 people, and at least 28 people died in the northern Philippines.

Sherpa guides missing in avalanche on Nepal peak

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP)—A veteran Sherpa guide who has scaled Mount Everest 19 times and another Nepalese guide are missing after an avalanche hit them while they were climbing a smaller Himalayan peak, his agent said Sunday. Chhewang Nima, 43, was hired by a British expedition to scale the 23,380-foot (7,130-meter) Mount Baruntse and was fixing ropes near the summit when an avalanche hit him and the other guide on Saturday, said Jeevan Ghimire of the Sherpa Shangrila Trek and Expedition agency. The accident occurred at an altitude of 23,100 feet (7,045 meters), he said. The other members of the team dug in the snow but were unable to find the missing climbers.

Rebels, police clash in Philippines; chief missing

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine town police chief and one of his men were feared abducted Sunday after the town force clashed with communist rebels, officials said. One of the guerrillas was killed. Police in northeastern Quezon province have been ordered to put up checkpoints as security forces run after rebels involved in the clash in San Andres township, Senior Supt. Erickson Velasquez said. The chief, Senior Inspector Glenn Miralles, and another policeman are missing, and another policeman was wounded, he said. The rebels also clashed with army troops who reinforced the police but there were no immediate details.

Karzai seeks list of aid projects needing security

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Afghan president asked Sunday for a list of national aid projects that need protection by private security guards, potentially signaling his wish to reach a compromise over the status of security companies in Afghanistan and safeguard foreign aid projects worth billions of dollars.

President Hamid Karzai spent the day meeting with his ministers and top-level foreign diplomats as they tried to hammer out a compromise between his aim of disbanding private security companies by the end of the year and protecting foreign-funded aid projects threatened by insurgent attacks.

Karzai

"The list of the big projects and their security needs should be given to the Afghan government and the Afghan government will assess and make a decision," Karzai said in a statement. "These talks will continue."

It's unclear whether the proposal will be accepted by those in the international community who have called for an across-the-board exemption for companies working on internationally funded development projects until Afghan security forces are more capable of taking over security.

The idea of an infamously corrupt government sorting through a list of big-money aid projects and deciding which gets to stay and which gets to go may not sit well with the international community.

Many contractors and aid groups have said they will have to shut down or suspend projects if they are not exempted—as they won't be able to insure their workers if they're guarded by the notoriously corrupt and poorly trained Afghan police. The ban has also alarmed diplomats, who say winning hearts and minds requires that reconstruction and aid projects follow military successes against the Taliban.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called Karzai on Saturday and suggested an extension to the looming Dec. 17 deadline. That would allow the government to steadily phase out private security companies without disrupting the work of contractors who employ private guards to protect their workers, projects and facilities.

Karzai claims the private guards are undermining his nation's army and police, and wants Afghan security forces to take on the job of providing protection for the aid workers.

But Afghan officials have also said in meetings that they expect the money now going to pay private security firms to be redirected to the Afghan police, according to a diplomatic official familiar with the talks who spoke anonymously because of the sensitivity of the issue. International donors have said those funds will not be automatically shifted to the Afghan government for the country's security forces, the official said.

Contractors who are involved in building roads, schools and hundreds of other development projects have already begun winding down programs, saying they will have to stop their work if they can't employ guards to protect their workers and facilities.

Karzai agreed earlier this year to allow private guards to keep working for foreign governments at embassies, other diplomatic outposts and military facilities. But he has refused to extend the exemption.

Karzai estimates that 30,000 to 40,000 people work for security companies. There are 52 security firms licensed with the Interior Ministry, about half of them Afghan-owned.

World

In Haiti, cholera could heighten earthquake misery

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—A cholera outbreak that already has left 250 people dead and more than 3,000 sickened is at the doorstep of an enormous potential breeding ground: the squalid camps in Port-au-Prince where 1.3 million earthquake survivors live. Health authorities and aid workers are scrambling to keep the tragedies from merging and the deaths from multiplying.

Five cholera patients have been reported in Haiti's capital, heightening worries that the disease could reach the sprawling tent slums where abysmal hygiene, poor sanitation, and widespread poverty could rapidly spread it. But government officials said Sunday that all five apparently got cholera outside Port-au-Prince, and they voiced hope that the deadly bacterial disease could be confined to the rural areas where the outbreak originated last week.

"It's not difficult to prevent the spread to Port-au-Prince. We can prevent it," said Health Ministry director Gabriel Timothee. He said tightly limiting movement of patients and careful disposal of bodies can stave off a major medical disaster.

If efforts to keep cholera out of the camps fail, "The worst case would be that we have hundreds of thousands of people getting sick at the same time," said Claude Surena, president of the Haiti Medical Association. Cholera can cause vomiting and diarrhea so severe it can kill from dehydration in hours.

Doctors Without Borders issued a statement saying that some Port-au-Prince residents were suffering from watery diarrhea and were being treated at facilities in the capital city. Cholera infection among the patients had not been confirmed, however, and aid workers stressed that diarrhea has not been uncommon in Port-au-Prince since the earthquake.

"Medical teams have treated many people with watery diarrhea over the last several months," Doctors Without Borders said.

Aid workers in the impoverished nation say the risk is magnified by the extreme poverty faced by people displaced by the Jan. 12 earthquake, which killed as many as 300,000 people and destroyed much of the capital city. Haitians living in the camps risk disease by failing to wash their hands, or scooping up standing water and then proceeding to wash fruits and vegetables.

"There are limited ways you can wash your hands and keep your hands washed with water in slums like we have here," said Michel Thieren, an official with the Pan-American Health Organization in Haiti. "The conditions for transmission are much higher."

Aid workers are coaching thousands of impoverished families how best to avoid cholera. Various aid groups are providing soap and water purification tablets and educating people in Port-au-Prince's camps about the importance of washing their hands.

Aid groups also began training more staff about cholera and where to direct people with symptoms. The disease had not been seen in Haiti for decades, and many people don't know about it.

Members of one grassroots Haitian organization traveled around Port-au-Prince's camps booming warnings about cholera from speakers in the bed of a pickup truck.

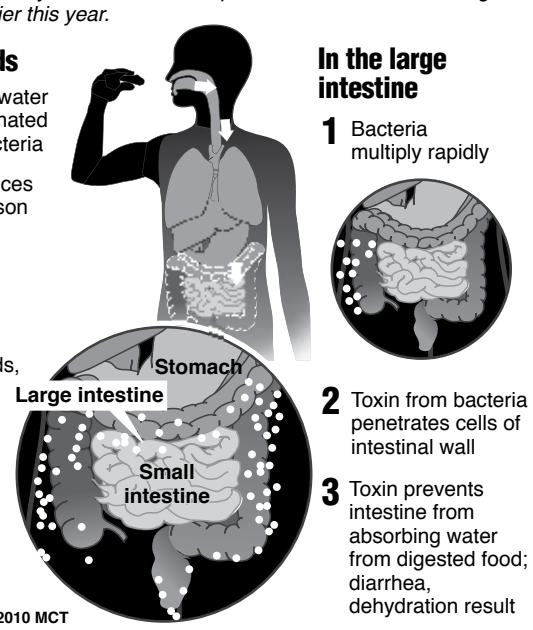
"Many people have become sick," announced Etant Dupain, in front of the Champs de Mars camp by Haiti's broken national palace. "If you have a family member that has diarrhea, bring them to the hospital immediately. Have them use separate latrines."

In a promising development, aid group Partners in Health said hospital management was improving in the city at the center of the initial outbreak, St. Marc, which is about a 60-mile (95-kilometer) drive northwest of Haiti. Just 300 patients were hospitalized on Saturday, a number that has decreased by the end of each day.

A cholera treatment center in St. Marc is expected to be functional within the week, and efforts were ongoing to make clean water available in rural communities, especially those where rivers were the only source of water.

How cholera affects the body

At least 135 people have died in Haiti after a suspected cholera outbreak, the country's deadliest health problem since its devastating earthquake earlier this year.


How it spreads
• People ingest water or food contaminated with cholera bacteria
• In epidemic, feces of diseased person is source of contamination
Treatment
• Salt solution, intravenous fluids, antibiotics
• In unprepared communities, death rates can be as high as 50 percent
Source: World Health Organization
© 2010 MCT
Stomach
Large intestine
Small intestine
In the large intestine
1 Bacteria multiply rapidly
2 Toxin from bacteria penetrates cells of intestinal wall
3 Toxin prevents intestine from absorbing water from digested food; diarrhea, dehydration result

AP

People watch a US missionary doctor, who did not want to be identified, confirm the man lying in the bed died of cholera outside a hospital before being transported home in the town of Droin, Haiti, Friday Oct. 22, 2010.

Pirates seize 2 ships off Kenya

BERLIN (AP)—Somali pirates seized a German freight ship off the coast of Kenya on Sunday—the second commercial vessel to be captured in the region in as many days, officials said.

The pirates took control of the German freight ship *Beluga Fortune* about 1,200 miles (1,930 kilometers) east of Mombasa, Kenya, a spokesman for the German army said on condition of anonymity, in keeping with military regulations.

The German shipping company Beluga-Reederei, which owns the vessel, said Sunday night that Somali pirates were behind the attack and that the ship was on its way from the United Arab Emirates to South Africa.

Verena Beckhusen, a spokeswoman for the Bremen-based company, declined to give further details regarding the crew or the cargo, but the German news agency dapd said the vessel was carrying at least two German citizens.

On Saturday night, pirates seized a liquefied gas tanker 105 miles (165 kilometers) off the coast of Kenya in the Somali Basin, said officials in Singapore, where the ship is registered.

The MV *York* was traveling from Mombasa to Mahe in the Seychelles with 17 crew when pirates commandeered it, the Singapore Maritime and Port Authority said in a statement.

The authority said Sunday it was working with the ship's owner, York Maritime Co., and government agencies to recover the ship.

A Turkish warship sent a helicopter to investigate the attack, and its crew members saw pirates armed with weapons aboard the MV *York*, the European Union Naval Force said Sunday.

The 5,076-ton MV *York* had one German, two Ukrainians and 14 Filipinos aboard, the EU force said in a statement.

Somali pirates have long been active in the region, and they currently are holding 19 vessels with 428 hostages, according to the EU Naval Force.

Somalia has lacked a fully functioning government since 1991, which makes it difficult to prosecute suspected Somali pirates. U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon recently said options under consideration to do that more effectively include creating a special international court.

But some countries have gone ahead with their own court cases.

In Yemen, 13 Somali men accused of stealing boats off the country's coast pleaded not guilty Saturday to piracy. The Yemeni prosecution said the men were arrested in May on the shores of al-Mahra in eastern Yemen. It said their ship was carrying weapons, explosives and ladders.

The trial, being held in the eastern province of Hadramawt, was postponed to Nov. 6 to give the suspects a chance to secure a lawyer.

WORLD BRIEFS

Hurricane Richard makes landfall in Belize

BELIZE CITY (AP)—Hurricane Richard slammed into Belize's Caribbean coast just south of its largest city late Sunday, as authorities evacuated tourists from outlying islands and an estimated 10,000 people took refuge at shelters in the tiny Central American nation. The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said Richard's top winds were 90 mph (150 kph)—making it a Category 1 hurricane—when it made landfall about 20 miles (35 kms) south-southwest of Belize City, whose neighborhoods are full of wooden, tin-roof homes that are very vulnerable to winds. "The winds are very strong ... it's getting stronger," said Fanny Llanos, a clerk at the Lazy Iguana bed and Breakfast on Caye Caulker, a low-lying island known for its coral reefs and crystal-clear waters, located just offshore from Belize City.

Iraqi court orders parliament back to work

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraq's highest court on Sunday ordered parliament back to work after a virtual seven-month recess, intensifying pressure to break the political stalemate that has held up formation of a new government. The 325 lawmakers met only once since they were elected on March 7 for a session that lasted 20 minutes and consisted of a reading from Islam's holy book, the Quran, the playing of the national anthem and swearing in new members. Under the constitution, parliament was required to meet within 15 days of final court approval of election results, which came on June 1. Lawmakers met on June 14 and should have chosen a parliament speaker during their first session and then the president within 30 days. But these appointments had to be put off because they are part of the negotiations between major political blocs over the rest of the new leadership—including a prime minister and top Cabinet officials.

Gunbattle in northern Mexico kills 3 bystanders

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico (AP)—Three bystanders died in the crossfire of a shootout between gunmen, police and soldiers in northern Mexico on Sunday. The victims were a 14-year-old boy and two women aged 18 and 47, according to a statement by the prosecutors' office in northern Coahuila state. The statement said gunmen traveling in two vehicles opened fire on a convoy of federal police and soldiers in the city of Saltillo, Coahuila. The officers and soldiers returned fire. It was not clear who fired the shots that killed the bystanders, but the state attorney general's office said it was investigating and expressed condolences to the victims' families.

Nigeria: Sect members attack police station

DAMATURA, Nigeria (AP)—Suspected members of a Muslim sect accused of orchestrating targeted killings across northern Nigeria have attacked another police station. Officials say officers repelled the attack Saturday night targeting the police station, located in rural Yobe state, killing one of the suspected members of the Boko Haram sect. Police chief Mamman Sule told The Associated Press on Sunday that the men had wanted to set the station ablaze, but were foiled in their attack. Suspected sect members recently firebombed another police station in neighboring Borno state. Followers of Boko Haram, which means "Western education is sacrilege" in Hausa, have emerged recently from hiding after their followers started a July 2009 riot, which led to a subsequent security crackdown that left 700 people dead.

Focus

AP

In this Dec. 23, 2008 file photo, traffic at left heads northbound on the Alaskan Way Viaduct, above the southbound lanes below, through downtown Seattle.

US shuns some big public works projects

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—New Jersey's governor wants to kill a $9 billion-plus train tunnel to New York City because of runaway costs. Six thousand miles away, Hawaii's outgoing governor is having second thoughts about a proposed $5.5 billion rail line in Honolulu.

In many of the 48 states in between, infrastructure projects are languishing on the drawing board, awaiting the right mix of creative financing, political arm-twisting and timing to move forward. And a struggling economy and a surge of political candidates opposed to big spending could make it a long wait.

Has the nation that built the Hoover Dam, brought electricity to the rural South and engineered the interstate highway system lost its appetite for big public works projects? At a time when other countries are pouring money into steel and concrete, is the U.S. unwilling to think long-term?

"My sense is things have changed," said Andrew Goetz, a University of Denver professor and an expert on transportation policy. "People now tend to see any project as a waste of money, and that's just wrong."

"I call it the Bridge to Nowhere syndrome," he added. "High-profile projects get publicized and they become a symbol for any infrastructure project that's out there, and even the ones that are justified get tarnished by the same charge."

The so-called Bridge to Nowhere would have cost hundreds of millions of dollars to connect one Alaskan town to an island of 50 residents. It figured in the 2008 presidential election when then-Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin was criticized for initially backing the plan, which was eventually scrapped.

The other cautionary tale of the past few years is Boston's Big Dig, the highway and tunnel project that was originally envisioned at less than $3 billion and wound up costing nearly $15 billion.

The Big Dig has made it far easier for motorists to get to and from Boston's airport, and it eliminated a noisy and unsightly elevated highway that cast a shadow over some of the city's neighborhoods. But construction was plagued by years of delays, corruption and shoddy workmanship that resulted in the death of a motorist in a ceiling collapse.

A report this month by the Treasury Department and the Council of Economic Advisers paints a picture of a country dissatisfied with the state of America's aging infrastructure and in favor of improvements, but not necessarily eager to commit the dollars to fix it.

Standing in New York's Penn Station on Thursday in front of a sign touting the proposed tunnel, commuter Bill Mischell of Plainsboro, N.J., gave voice to those conclusions.

"You could make the argument that it will make New Jersey a better place to live, but you also have to weigh it impartially against the huge cost," Mischell said. "The state's in pretty significant financial trouble, and the money's got to come from somewhere."

Infrastructure spending in the U.S. stands at 2 percent of the country's gross domestic product- half what it was in 1960—compared with approximately 9 percent in China and 5 percent for Europe, according to the government report.

"During recessions it is common for state and local governments to cut back on capital projects—such as building schools, roads and parks—in order to meet balanced budget requirements," the report concluded. "However, the need for improved and expanded infrastructure is just as great during a downturn as it is during a boom."

The American Society of Civil Engineers calculates that the U.S. would need to spend an additional $1.1 trillion over the next five years to restore roads, bridges, dams, levees and other infrastructure to good condition. In its latest report card, the engineering society gave the nation's public works a "D" grade.

"Somehow we believe if we ignore it, it will go away," said Blaine Leonard, the society's president. "And it won't. We have to stop hitting the snooze button on this problem."

He said now is a good time to spend money on infrastructure because construction companies in this weak economy are hungry for work and the costs are relatively low as a result.

Major infrastructure projects of the past benefited from strong leadership, notably the interstate highway system pushed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in the 1950s, he said. Today, though, "there isn't any high-level leadership about infrastructure," so there's no agreement about priorities, Leonard said.

CG/LA Infrastructure LLC, a Washington consulting firm, recently put together a list of the worthiest 100 large infrastructure projects in North America, totaling about $400 billion. Among the suggestions: a next-generation air traffic control system; high-speed rail linking Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Chicago; a pair of highway projects in Texas; and the tunnel that New Jersey's governor has threatened to scuttle.

To be sure, there are large-scale projects under way, notably in California, where a combination of federal dollars and voter-approved bonds and local tax increases are funding improvements, from highway widening to the $6.2 billion renovation of the Bay Bridge between San Francisco and Oakland. And this week, Arizona and Nevada hailed the opening of a $240 million bridge that bypasses Hoover Dam.

However, many projects recently completed or in the pipeline secured funding before the economy went into a slide. Some of them might not be approved today.

In New Jersey, construction on a rail tunnel connecting New Jersey and New York City—the largest transportation project under way in the U.S.—began in 2009 under then-Gov. Jon Corzine, a Democrat. It is projected to double train capacity at peak times as well as provide 6,000 construction jobs immediately and up to 40,000 jobs after its completion in 2018. About $6 billion of the cost is being covered by the federal government and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Earlier this month, Republican Gov. Chris Christie announced he was pulling the plug because the cost had escalated from $5 billion in 2005 to more than $9 billion by the federal government's estimate, and as much as $14 billion by Christie's reckoning.

"I simply cannot put the taxpayers of the state of New Jersey on what would be a never-ending hook," he said.

Christie later agreed to reconsider. The two-week review period expires Friday.

In Hawaii, Republican Gov. Linda Lingle announced recently that she wouldn't sign off on a federally subsidized rail line until an updated economic study is conducted. And that may not be completed before she leaves office in less than two months. That means the project's fate could be in her successor's hands.

In Seattle, new Mayor Mike McGinn is threatening to hold up construction of a massive highway tunnel to replace the waterfront's dilapidated, earthquake-damaged Alaskan Way Viaduct because he fears city taxpayers will be on the hook if costs spiral beyond the $4.2 billion price tag.

"The issue of the overall cost of the tunnel has been a concern to voters since before the recession, and I think the severity of the state's and the city's fiscal situation is causing people to take a harder look at ... an expensive and risky project," McGinn said.

In Wisconsin, Ohio and California, Republican candidates for governor have vowed they won't endorse high-speed rail projects, despite the promise of billions of dollars from Washington.

Other countries are spending heavily on job-creating infrastructure. Projects include Algeria's $11.2 billion east-west highway; a planned $10 billion bridge linking the Indonesian islands of Java and Sumatra; and China's $60 billion Yangtze River diversion project.

Australia plans to spend $38 billion to relieve traffic congestion in Melbourne, while Britain is preparing for a $45 billion high-speed rail link between London and the West Midlands. Japan is building a $70 billion highway from Tokyo to Osaka, scheduled for completion in 2020.

In the U.S., it often takes a catastrophe to give infrastructure improvements more urgency. The Minneapolis bridge collapse in 2007 that killed 13 people prompted reviews of aging bridges around the country.

"Unfortunately, our attention span is short," Leonard said. "You would think the Minneapolis bridge collapse would have sent repercussions throughout the system that would have resulted in a transportation funding bill, but it didn't. Even bridge funding bills didn't get through Congress."

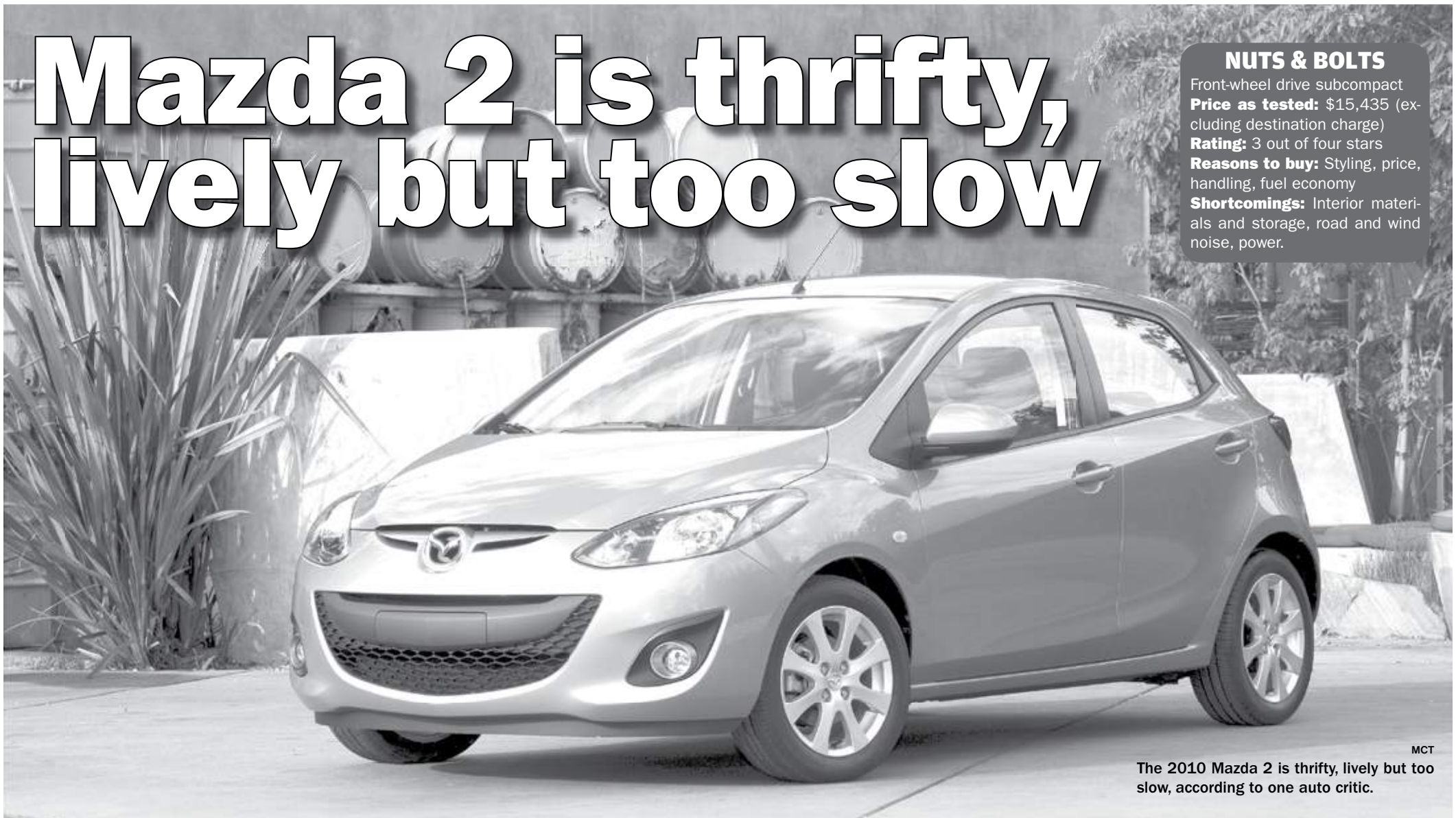
Consultant Norman Anderson of CG/LA Infrastructure said the federal government's recent emphasis on smaller, "shovel-ready" projects to stimulate the economy is misguided and shows a lack of vision.

"You don't do 'shovel-ready.' That is idiotic and extremely uninformed," he said in an e-mail. "You do projects now because they produce value for an economy 20 to 30 years into the future, as well as producing immediate jobs."

Overdrive

Mazda 2 is thrifty, lively but too slow

NUTS & BOLTS
Front-wheel drive subcompact
Price as tested: $15,435 (excluding destination charge)
Rating: 3 out of four stars
Reasons to buy: Styling, price, handling, fuel economy
Shortcomings: Interior materials and storage, road and wind noise, power.



MCT
The 2010 Mazda 2 is thrifty, lively but too slow, according to one auto critic.

By MARK PHELAN
DETROIT FREE PRESS

The Mazda 2 has four cylinders, but just one syllable. The subcompact's limited power cuts the company's "Zoom-Zoom" motto to a single, hesitant "Zoom?"The cheeky little hatchback offers sharp handling, good fuel economy and very attractive looks, but its performance and interior refinement could stand improvement. Prices for the 2011 Mazda 2 start at $13,980. That gets you a Sport model with a 100-horsepower, 1.5-liter, four-cylinder engine and five-speed manual transmission. Adding a four-speed automatic raises the tab to $14,780. The Touring model adds standard equipment like alloy wheels and a six-speaker sound system. Prices for the 2 Touring start at $15,435 for the five-speed manual and $16,235 with the four-speed automatic. I tested a $15,435 2 Touring with the manual transmission and no options. The Mazda 2's chief competitors are subcompacts like the Chevrolet Aveo, Ford Fiesta, Honda Fit, Nissan Versa and Toyota Yaris. The 2's prices compare well to similarly equipped models of those competitors. The 2 shares its platform with the Ford Fiesta. The Mazda is smaller and has its own sheet metal, interior trim, engine and transmissions. There's no mistaking the cars for one another. At 155.5 inches long, the Mazda is shorter than all the competitors except the diminutive 150.6-inch Yaris hatchback. (The Yaris sedan measures a comparatively gargantuan 169.3 inches.) Despite that, the 2 offers a roomy passenger compartment with plenty of headroom and more space than the Fiesta and Yaris hatchbacks. The 2 has 13.3 cubic feet of space behind the rear seat. That's more than the Fiesta, Aveo and Yaris hatchbacks, less than the Fit and Versa. The competitors all come in either hatchback or sedan models. Mazda only builds the 2 as a hatchback. That's fine with me. The body style allows for more design flair and cargo capacity than most small sedans. The 2's mischievous styling features short overhangs for a tidy, tucked-in look. Mazda's grinning double grille looks less cartoonish on the 2 than when stretched across larger cars. Subtle fender flares, two rising lines along the sides, a curved roof and fast hatchback rear complete the distinctive profile. The interior materials look and feel cheap. With the exception of the Touring model's attractive cloth upholstery, the interior is sheathed in an array of plastics that could stock a museum exhibit on unfortunate 1980s design. Interior storage space is very limited. The shallow receptacles between the front seats aren't big enough to hold coins, sunglasses, iPods and phones securely. A storage bin doubling as an armrest would make the interior considerably more useful. Cost control trumped all other considerations in designing the interior, though. How else to explain the fact that there's just one cupholder in the rear seat? Road and wind noise become intrusive at highway speeds. That's probably because of the budget constraints and Mazda's dedication to keeping its vehicle light. The 2 I tested weighed 200 to 300 pounds less than comparably equipped competitors. The combination of light weight and tidy dimensions gives the 2 crisp, responsive handling. The little car is fun to drive despite its lackluster engine and transmissions. The 2's electrical power steering is quick and provides good feedback. It performed well in eager drives through the country and crowded parking lots. The suspension keeps the car stable in quick maneuvers. The 2's drivetrain shrinks the smile-per-mile ratio, however. At 100 horsepower and 98 pound-feet of torque, the 2 has less power on tap than its competitors. Very little torque is available below 3,000 r.p.m. Acceleration is rather leisurely thanks to the engine and the 2's limited gearboxes. The Mazda's five-speed manual and four-speed automatic are a couple of gears short of a shift pattern. The Fiesta offers a six-speed dual-clutch, the Fit a five-speed automatic and Versa a six-speed manual or continuously variable gearbox. Ford, Honda and Nissan get more Zoom out of their small engines than Mazda. It takes quick shifts and a willingness to rev the engine high and hard to motivate the 2. Despite its outdated transmissions, the 2 is among the most fuel-efficient cars you can buy. Its EPA rating of 32 m.p.g. in combined city and highway driving beats the Fit and Versa and just about every compact car on the road. The Mazda 2's looks, price, fuel economy and handling make it an enjoyable and budget-savvy new alternative, despite Mazda's cost cutting.

Under The Hood

Fuel Injection 101

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Question: Can you explain how fuel injection works? I've been hearing about new ways this is done and realized I didn't understand the current kind. I grew up with carburetors and tinkered with them occasionally. Is there still any tinkering to be done?

Answer: Typical recent vehicles employ electronic multiport sequential fuel injection— what a mouthful! This means the fuel injection process is electronically controlled—a managing computer obtains engine operating information, processes the information, and electrically commands each fuel injector to squirt the desired quantity of fuel at precisely the right time. Multiport refers to there being an individual fuel injector for each cylinder's intake manifold port. Sequential firing of the fuel injectors means each shot of fuel is timed to exactly match the in-rush of air as each intake valve opens. Earlier fuel injection systems varied widely in the method (mechanical/hydraulic/electronic) and location (throttle body or intake port) fuel was squirted. An electric fuel pump, either in or near the fuel tank, provides a constant flow of fuel to the system components atop the engine, and a pressure regulator, or clever operation of the pump, results in the desired pressure being available to the fuel injectors. The injectors are spark-plug sized solenoid valves (imagine tiny electrically operated showerheads) sandwiched between the fuel rail (fuel supply tube) and the intake manifold. The managing computer, typically called an ECM (Electronic Control Module) or PCM (Powertrain Control Module) looks at engine RPM, crankshaft and camshaft position, engine and air temperature, as well as engine load and/or airflow. This data (and a few additional items of lesser importance) is crunched, and appropriate fuel injector commands are issued. These are basically on/off signals varying in duration from a few to perhaps a dozen thousandths of a second and occur from several times up to about 50 times per second. If the incoming information and fuel pressure are correct, and the injector is free of nozzle deposits, a finely atomized fuel mist of correct proportion is dispensed to each intake manifold port. The low pressure (vacuum) and heat within the intake manifold helps vaporizes the mist, making it suitable for combustion. Modern fuel injection systems are incredibly accurate and reliable. Problems with dirty fuel injectors are now rare thanks to improved injector design and mandated fuel additives. Also, feedback from the system's exhaust oxygen sensors allows almost instantaneous air-fuel ratio correction, should minor faults arise.Some newer vehicles now use direct cylinder fuel injection. This is a tricky but highly rewarding method of extracting greater engine performance. Extremely high fuel pressure is needed to squirt fuel into the combustion chamber and the fuel injectors live in a very harsh environment. I'm hopeful this method can prove to be as reliable as it is efficient. Tinkering with a fuel injection system is possible, via aftermarket reprogramming and component swaps, but isn't viable or legal for a daily driven, emissions regulated vehicle.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him e-mail at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

Life & Style

Judge's rehab ruling keeps Lohan comeback on hold

By ANTHONY McCARTNEY
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—New year, new Lindsay Lohan?

That appears to be the hope of Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Elden S. Fox, who on Friday ordered the starlet to remain in rehab until January. In doing so he ended any short-term plans for the actress' comeback, but also followed the recommendations of medical professionals who say the "Mean Girls" star is only beginning to realize the depths of her addiction.

He also slyly removed one potential source of temptation and relapse.

"You're staying past the New Year's—there's a reason for that," Fox said.

Lohan, who was in court for her fifth time since May, cried after hearing the sentence for failing a recent drug test.

The ruling allowed Lohan to avoid a fourth trip to jail, but it wasn't exactly the outcome the actress was hoping for in advance of the hearing.

Lohan's probation report states she told an officer last week that she hoped to be released from the Betty Ford Clinic in Rancho Mirage, California. after one month and cited financial worries. She told the officer that "continued inpatient treatment would be a hardship financially, and damaging to her career," according to the report.

The 20-acre (8-hectare) addiction treatment hospital is not cheap—three months of inpatient treatment can cost nearly $50,000, according to its website.

Lohan cited problems with her clothing line and an upcoming role as porn star Linda Lovelace in a biopic as reasons for wanting to get out, the report stated.

The movie, however, will wait for Lohan.

"Inferno" writer-director Matthew Wilder says Lohan's rehab won't interfere with role and that production was already set to begin in mid-January.

"It looks good and we are not replacing (her)," he said Friday.

Fox warned Lohan that she could suffer further damage to her career if she did not succeed.

The actress has become more of a tabloid mainstay than box office draw since a pair of high-profile arrests in 2007 led to the current drug and drunken driving case. Once a star of Disney films, Lohan returned to the big screen this summer in a role in "Machete," but missed the opportunity to promote the film because of stints in jail and rehab.

Fox said if Lohan remains out of trouble until late February, he would allow her to serve unsupervised probation and leave Los Angeles if she wished.

"You'll put this long episode behind you," he said.

The judge had previously charted a course for Lohan's freedom, setting a 67-day regimen of outpatient counseling, treatment and drug testing in August when he agreed to release her early from another court-ordered rehab.

Within weeks, however, Lohan, 24, had failed a drug screening. That prompted Fox to try to send her to jail for nearly a month, but that ruling was quickly overruled on appeal.

AP

Actress Lindsay Lohan leaves her probation violation hearing at the Beverly Hills Courthouse in Beverly Hills, Calif. on Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.

Those treating Lohan now told probation officials the actress' best hope is a long stay in rehab.

A psychotherapist who started treating Lohan during a 23-day stay at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center this year said, "He believes that the defendant needs to continue to work on her issues in order to save her life," according to Lohan's probation report.

The actress' probation officer concurred. "Possibly removing herself from her lifestyle and its pressures for an extended period is exactly what is needed to preserve her health," the report states.

Lohan is due back in court on Feb. 25. Probation officials have been ordered to prepare another report to show the actress' progress after a few months out of the limelight.

Academic: Jane Austen had a helping hand from editor

LONDON (AP)—She's renowned for her precise, exquisite prose, but new research shows Jane Austen was a poor speller and erratic grammarian who got a big helping hand from her editor.

Oxford University English professor Kathryn Sutherland studied 1,100 handwritten pages of unpublished work from the author of incisive social comedies such as "Pride and Prejudice." She said Saturday that they contradicted the claim by Austen's brother Henry that "everything came finished from her pen."

"In reading the manuscripts, it quickly becomes clear that this delicate precision is missing," Sutherland said.

She said the papers show "blots, crossings out, messiness," and a writer who "broke most of the rules for writing good English."

"In particular, the high degree of polished punctuation and epigrammatic style we see in 'Emma' and 'Persuasion' is simply not there," Sutherland said.

Sutherland said letters from Austen's publisher reveal that editor William Gifford was heavily involved in making sense of Austen's sensibility, honing the style of her late novels "Emma" and "Persuasion."

Gifford did not edit earlier books such as "Sense and Sensibility" and "Pride and Prejudice," whose inconsistencies have sometimes been blamed on bad printing.

"In fact, the style in these novels is much closer to Austen's manuscript hand," Sutherland said.

Sutherland said the revelations shouldn't damage the reputation of Austen, who was little known when she died in 1817 at the age of 41 but has since become one of Britain's most beloved authors.

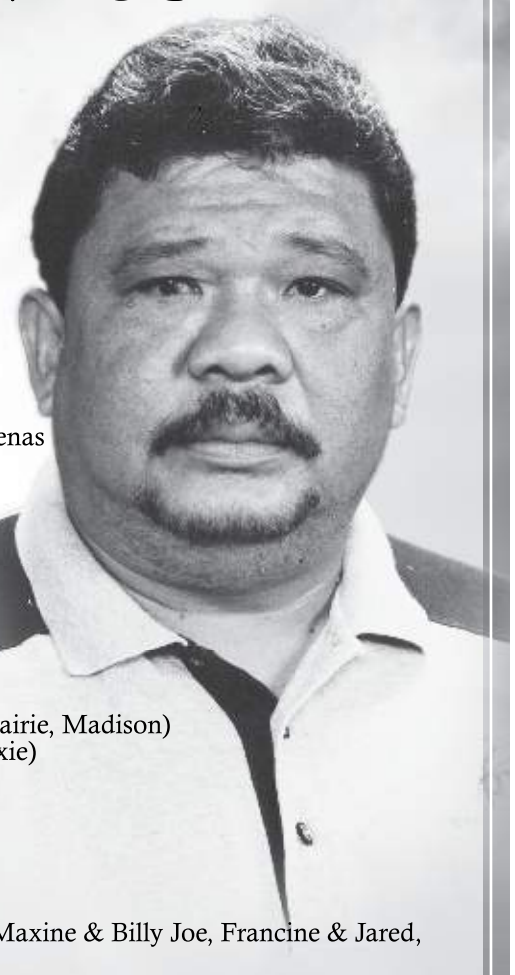
Sutherland said the documents reveal an experimental writer who was "even better at writing dialogue and conversation than the edited style of her published novels suggest."

"The manuscript evidence offers a different face for Jane Austen, one smoothed out in the famous printed novels," she said.

Austen's handwritten manuscripts will go online Monday at http://www.janeausten.ac.uk , the result of a three-year project to digitize the author's unpublished work.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

JOSEPH DUENAS DELA ROSA



Fondly known as "PUMPULANG"
Was called to eternal life by our Lord at the age of 47.
Born: February 05, 1963
Died: October 22, 2010

IN HIS NEW LIFE, HE NOW JOINS HIS:
Grandparents: Jose Villagomez Duenas & Nieves Palacios Duenas
Grandparents-in-Laws: Vicente & Regina B. Matagolai
Vicente & Rosa Mendiola
Pedro B. & Guadalupe Blas
Mother-In-Law: Lucia Matagolai Mendiola
Daughter: Marissa M. Dela Rosa
Brother: Donald D. Dela Rosa
Brother-In-Law: Jeffrey N. Maratita

SURVIVED BY HIS LOVING:
Wife: Mary Mendiola Dela Rosa
Children: Joseph Jr. & Adela T. Dela Rosa (Marissa, Honairie, Madison)
Maisy DLR. & Jonathan Green (Luciana & Lexie)
Antolynn M. Dela Rosa
Casey & Maggie Lynn
Parents: Antonio E. & Antonia D. De La Rosa
Parents- In-Laws: Antonio T. & Lucia B. Mendiola

SISTERS/BROTHERS/SPOUSES & CHILDREN:
Frances DLR. / Martin C. Pangelinan: (Chrislaine & Giovanni, Maxine & Billy Joe, Francine & Jared, Martin & Crystal)
Rudy D. / Nora S. Dela Rosa: (Nieves & Ryner, Noreen & Tyrone)
William D. Dela Rosa: (Henry, Giselle & Mike, Cheryl, Allan & Jessica, Mark, Lillian, Odesa)
Vivian DLR. / Mariano S. Palacios: (Marla & Christopher, Xylene & Vincent, Anthony & Sinforosa)
Juliana D. De La Rosa / Raymond P. Mendoza (Jerry & Raina, Jiana, David, Tzarina, Thaddeus, Kierstin)
Nora DLR. / Mike A. Santos

REARED BROTHER: Glen D. Wineinger
SISTERS/BROTHER-IN-LAWS:
Irene P. / Antonio C. Deleon Guerrero (Jocelyne)
Charlene M. / Patrick J. Tenorio: (Monique & Dirk, Cadez, Anthony, Peter, Patrick Jr. & Ioanis P. Rasa)
Edwin B. Blas
Dominic B. / Sherry A. Pangelinan (Vonderric & Alexis, Jeralyn & Frankie, Dominic Jr., Heavenly, Isaiah)

He will also be missed and remembered in the hearts of his God-children, numerous uncles and aunties, cousins and cousin-in-laws, nieces and nephews.

Mass is being celebrated each evening at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Holy Rosary at the St. Jude Church.

On Wednesday, October 27, 2010, his remains will arrive from Guam at 5:00 p.m. and will be escorted to the Cabrera Funeral Home.

On Saturday, October 30, 2010, his remains will be taken to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30 a.m. Responso service will be at 8:00 a.m., followed by the Holy Rosary.

Mass for Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11: 00 a.m. Interment services will follow immediately after at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetary.

Thank You and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Mary Mendiola Dela Rosa
Children & Family

'Paranormal' follow-up scares $41.5M out of fans

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Fear has taken hold at the box office with a $41.5 million debut for scary movie "Paranormal Activity 2," according to studio estimates Sunday.

Paramount Pictures' follow-up to last year's micro-budgeted hit "Paranormal Activity" got a jump on Halloween as fans packed theaters for another documentary-style thriller about a household plagued by a menacing spirit.

"Paranormal Activity 2" did nearly half its business on Friday, following the pattern of many fright-flick franchises, which often draw big crowds on opening day then drop off sharply. The movie took in $20.1 million Friday, with receipts falling to $13 million Saturday and $8.4 million Sunday.

The first "Paranormal Activity" rolled out gradually from city to city in a stealth-marketing campaign that built the buzz for the independently produced thriller that was shot for less than $15,000.

By the time the movie went into nationwide release, it had turned into a horror sensation that went on to become a $100 million hit.

The first movie came out of nowhere, and follow-up films to similar surprise smashes sometimes fall flat, such as "The Blair Witch Project" sequel. In its publicity campaign, Paramount tried to maintain an air of mystery around "Paranormal Activity 2."

"The challenge was to not make the mistake of some other movies of the past, and to treat it as its own very special entity. Even though we went wide with it, we tried to treat it a lot like the first one was treated from a publicity and marketing standpoint," said Don Harris, the studio's executive vice president for distribution.

Paramount also had the No. 2 movie with the stunt comedy "Jackass 3D," which opened in first place the previous weekend. "Jackass 3D" pulled in $21.6 million, down sharply from its $50 million opening.

But the movie raised its 10-day total to $87.1 million, more than either of the earlier two "Jackass" movies took in during their entire runs.

Summit Entertainment's action comedy "Red" held up well from its No. 2 debut a weekend earlier, slipping to third with $15 million and lifting its 10-day total to $43.5 million.

After opening Clint Eastwood and Matt Damon's "Hereafter" in limited release a week earlier, Warner Bros. expanded the supernatural drama nationwide, and the film came in at No. 4 with $12 million.

1. "**Paranormal Activity 2**," $41.5 million.
2. "**Jackass 3D**," $21.6 million.
3. "**Red**," $15 million.
4. "**Hereafter**," $12 million.
5. "**The Social Network**," $7.3 million.
6. "**Secretariat**," $6.9 million.
7. "**Life as We Know It**," $6.2 million.
8. "**Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole**," $3.2 million.
9. "**The Town**," $2.7 million.
10. "**Easy A**," $1.8 million.

The big opening for "Paranormal Activity 2" sets up a rematch of last Halloween season, when the first "Paranormal Activity" dismembered an established horror franchise and "Saw VI" debuted weakly with the worst opening weekend in the series' history.

Lionsgate went back to the drawing board for the seventh "Saw" movie, opening this Friday. "Saw 3D" brings back Cary Elwes from the franchise's first movie and mixes other cast members from throughout the series, while trying to capitalize on fan appetite for flicks shot in 3-D.

"This is a bigger, more powerful `Saw,' so to speak," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "It kind of primes up audiences for a major Halloween smackdown battle of the horror films, but I think `Saw 3D' is going to be a much more formidable opponent."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

AP

A doctor checks as people sleep a siesta during the first Siesta Championship in Madrid, Thursday, Oct. 14, 2010.

Snoring Ecuadorean wins Spanish siesta contest

MADRID (AP)—A 62-year-old Ecuadorean man managed to ignore the uproar of a teeming Madrid shopping center and snore loudly enough to win what was billed as Spain's first siesta championship.

Organizers on Saturday proclaimed unemployed security worker Pedro Soria Lopez the champion for sleeping 17 minutes.

They said he not only slept soundly but his snoring on Tuesday also registered 70 decibels—roughly the equivalent of the noise of someone talking loudly. That earned him extra points and enough to defeat the runner-up who had slept for 18 minutes.

"Oh I am so happy to be the first champion," said a laughing Quito-born Soria Lopez, who sported a handsome paunch and a drop-bar black mustache. He said he was a regular siesta taker, and it looked as if was telling the truth.

"My wife made me do this, but then they couldn't wake me up. Naturally, the lunch I had before with the 7 euros ($10) they had given me helped," he said before collecting the €1,000 ($1,400) winning check.

The somewhat tongue-in-cheek 9-day contest that ended Saturday was organized by the recently formed National Association of Friends of the Siesta and was sponsored by a shopping mall in Madrid's working class Carabanchel district.

Its aim? To promote a revival of this timeless custom so identified with Spain but which some believe is in danger of vanishing because of the pressures of modern times.

"People are so stressed out they can't take siestas any more," said spokesman Andres Lemes. "Studies show it's a healthy practice that recharges your batteries."

Each of the 360 sleepers that took part in the contest got just one shot. There also were individual prizes for snoring, odd sleeping positions and wearing striking pajamas.

Contestants in groups of five were given 20 minutes to lie down on garish blue couches and timed by a doctor with a pulse-measuring device to determine how long they spent snoozing. A judge perched on an umpire's seat awarded points for position, snoring ability and apparel.

"It's not a scientific study, obviously," said Peruvian Dr. Lila Chuecas, who monitored the contestants. "The idea is to encourage people to practice a healthy habit."

She said that less than 30 percent of contestants managed to nod off, given the surrounding noise of giggling youths and parents screaming at their kids. Loud, thumping pop music pounded continuously from the numerous stores all around.

The sofas were lined up in parallel numbered lanes like those of a track meet, and eight rounds were held per day.

Yoko Ono unveils a plaque on Lennon's London home

LONDON (AP)—Yoko Ono has unveiled a commemorative plaque on the London home she shared with John Lennon.

The blue English Heritage plaque adorns a Georgian row house at 34 Montagu Square, where the couple lived in 1968.

The ground floor and basement apartment was home to several rock legends. Beatles drummer Ringo Starr bought the property in 1965, and he sublet it to Paul McCartney and later Jimi Hendrix before Lennon and Ono moved in. It was the setting for the nude photo of the couple on the cover of their "Two Virgins" album.

Ono said Saturday she was honored by the decision to erect the plaque, one of hundreds across London marking the homes of prominent figures.

Lennon would have turned 70 on Oct. 9. He was shot dead in New York in December 1980.

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Paranormal Activity 2
Friday 4:30 7:30 10:00
Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Mon through Thurs 4:30 7:30
Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat
Thriller • Rated R
Synopsis
Spooky hauntings are once again the main course in this Paramount Pictures follow-up to Oren Peli's wildly successful supernatural thriller, Paranormal Activity. Kip Williams directs from a script by Michael Perry.

Jackass 3
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:40
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:40
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon through Thurs 4:00 7:00
Johnny Knoxville, Bam Margera
Comedy • Rated R
Synopsis
The Jackass pranksters are at it again in this third outing, presented for the first time in 3D — an effect that will no doubt redefine the use of the in-your-face technology. Once again Jeff Tremaine returns to direct the MTV Films/Paramount Pictures production.

Red
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Mon through Thurs 4:15 7:15
Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman
Thriller, Action • Rated PG 13
Synopsis
Warren Ellis' acclaimed Wildstorm comic series is adapted in this Summit Entertainment production starring Bruce Willis as a retired government hitman who gets targeted by the same outfit he once worked for. Morgan Freeman and Helen Mirren co-star, with Robert Schwentke (The Time Traveler's Wife) directing from a script by the Whiteout writing team of Erich and Jon Hoeber.

Easy A
Friday 4:10 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Mon through Thurs 4:10 7:10
Emma Stone, Penn Badgley
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Nanny McPhee Returns
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon through Thurs 4:05 7:05
Emma Thomson, Maggie Gyllenhaal
Comedy • Rated PG

Life As We Know It
Friday 4:25 7:25 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Mon through Thurs 4:25 7:25
Katherine Heigl, Josh Duhamel
Drama, Comedy • Rated PG 13

Legend Of The Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole
Friday 4:20 7:20 9:30
Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:30
Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon through Thurs 4:20 7:20
Sam Neil, Geoffrey Rush
Fantasy, Action • Rated PG

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Winfrey lands President Bush, Jackson's parents

CHICAGO (AP)—Former President George W. Bush and Michael Jackson's parents are among the big names "The Oprah Winfrey Show" has booked for November, when crucial TV ratings data are measured.

Harpo Productions released a schedule Friday, including a show featuring Bush discussing his memoir, "Decision Points," on Nov. 9—the day of its release.

No date was given for the Jacksons' interview. The production company says Katherine Jackson will talk about her son's life from childhood stardom to his death. She'll be joined by her husband, Joe Jackson.

Singer and actress Barbra Streisand will appear for an interview and a rare performance Nov. 16.

On Nov. 2, Ricky Martin will talk about raising twin boys and his decision to come out as gay.

This is the 25th and final season of Winfrey's talk show.

AP

In this photo taken Oct. 9, 2010 in Los Angeles, Katherine Jackson, mother of the late king of pop Michael Jackson, and Oprah Winfrey pose at the filming of an interview in which Jackson reflects on the life of her son from his childhood superstardom to recounting the day he passed away. The interview will air on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" sometime in November.

Lohan's father injured during California attack

SANTA MONICA, California (AP)—Authorities say troubled actress Lindsay Lohan's father has been hurt in an attack in a California parking lot.

Police say Michael Lohan was getting into his car Thursday night when a man attacked him with a sharp object. He sustained minor lacerations to his neck and forearm.

Police say that during the altercation, the attacker fell to the ground, got up and fled. No suspects have been arrested.

Sgt. Jay Trisler says the suspect was 40 to 50 years old and used some sort of sharp-edged device.

The 50-year-old Michael Lohan lives in Santa Monica. A judge ordered his daughter back into rehab Friday for failing a drug test.

Keith Richards says Mick Jagger enraged him

LONDON (AP)—Keith Richards says the Rolling Stones almost imploded because Mick Jagger thought he was "bigger than the Stones."

The pair's stormy relationship is described in Richards' memoir "Life," published next week.

Richards told the BBC on Sunday that during the 1980s, Jagger took control of the band and would not relinquish it. He said Jagger's behavior "started at first to annoy me and then slowly enraged me."

But he said the pair are still friends, half a century after they bonded over a love of American blues music. He said that "nobody has the perfect marriage" but they had healed the wounds of the past. The 66-year-old guitarist also said heroin and other drugs had helped him cope with fame. He said that "fame is probably a bigger killer than drugs in my game."

T.I. sued over skipping 'welcome back' concert

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama (AP)—A concert promoter who planned a "Welcome Back Party" to celebrate rapper T.I.'s release from jail is suing him for failing to show up.

Carl D. Davis filed the lawsuit in Alabama this week. He claims he paid T.I.'s agents more than $50,000 to appear at the May concert, but the performer was a no-show.

Davis says he suffered chest pains, nausea, emotional distress and hospitalization after T.I, whose real name is Clifford Harris Jr., didn't show.

A judge in Atlanta last week ordered the Grammy-winning rap artist back to prison for 11 months for violating his supervised release on federal weapons charges.

An attorney who has represented T.I. in the past didn't immediately return a telephone message.

AP

In this Oct. 3, 2010 file photo, Grammy award winning artist Clifford "TI" Harris, left, poses for media with his wife Tameka "Tiny" Harris, right, during an Alzheimers "For the Love of Our Fathers" foundation honoree luncheon at the Luckie Lounge in Atlanta.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Matt Damon's wife gives birth to another daughter

NEW YORK (AP)—It's another girl for Matt Damon and his wife. Damon's spokeswoman Jennifer Allen says Luciana Damon gave birth to Stella Zavala Damon on Wednesday in New York City. She is the couple's third daughter. She joins Gia, born in 2008, and Isabella, born in 2006. Luciana Damon also has a daughter, Alexa, from a previous marriage. Damon met his wife in 2003 while she was working as a bartender in Florida and he was filming "Stuck on You." They married in December 2005 in New York.

Cajun singer Richard recovering from stroke

LAFAYETTE, La. (AP)—A friend says Cajun singer and songwriter Zachary Richard (ree-SHARD') is recovering from a stroke but may have to cancel or postpone a Canadian tour scheduled to start Oct. 29. Todd Mouton told The Advertiser newspaper in Lafayette, La. the 60-year-old Richard is making a good comeback from the stroke, which affected one side of his body but not his voice. The newspaper reports that Richard suffered the stroke Oct. 17. Richard has been promoting "Le Grand Gosier," a single and video to help raise awareness about issues facing the people of the Louisiana Gulf Coast. In 1996, he founded Action Cadienne, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the French language and Cajun culture of Louisiana.

Grammy-winning rapper hopes to be Chicago

CHICAGO (AP)—Hip-hop artist Che "RhymeFest" Smith says his latest ambition is to join the city council in Chicago. The 33-year-old rapper, best known for co-writing the Grammy-winning song "Jesus Walks" with his friend Kanye West, announced Thursday that he is running for alderman on the city's South Side. Smith says he hopes to lead a renaissance in a community that's dotted with empty lots and boarded-up businesses and plagued by unemployment and crime. He says he wants to make it easier for people to invest in the community and expand businesses, which would spur the hiring of local residents. He did not give specifics. Smith says West supports his candidacy—but did not promise that the producer-turned-rapper would hit the campaign trail.

Settlement allows NJ baker use of 'Cake Boss' name

HOBOKEN, N.J. (AP)—The Learning Channel's "Cake Boss" won't have to change his name after all. An agreement has been reached between a Seattle software company and cable channel, which airs the reality series "Cake Boss" featuring Carlo's City Hall Bakery in Hoboken, N.J. A federal judge in Washington state had temporarily barred the show from using the name. Masters Software of Seattle has been selling business software for bakery owners called CakeBoss since 2007, before the reality show went on the air. An attorney for Masters says that under an agreement between the parties, "Cake Boss" Buddy Valastro can use the name on the show and Masters can still use it for its software and other items.

Cancer survivors take man to task for his implant bias

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I had to laugh when I read the letter from "Needs a Real Woman in Florida" (Sept. 8), written by a man complaining about dating women with breast implants. I am a breast cancer survivor and I have implants. I was with a man for nearly two years who knew I'd had one of them done because the scarring was obvious. One night when we were talking, I mentioned that the other one was also false and he didn't believe me. He couldn't tell the difference.

Years ago, I dated a man who told me before we became intimate that he didn't know if he could "handle" being with someone with implants. I should have dumped him then, but I didn't. But the real kicker? We were in the middle of an amorous embrace when his toupee fell off. I started laughing, and that was the end of the relationship. What a hypocrite—putting down someone else when he had a rug!

I wonder what "Needs" would do if he met a woman post-mastectomy before she had reconstructive surgery?

GRATEFUL SURVIVOR IN ARIZONA

DEAR GRATEFUL: You are one of many survivors who shared their reason for breast surgery, many of whom pointed out that the biggest "boob" of all was the writer of that letter. Read on:

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Women with breast implants ARE real women. I know because I'm one of them. Perhaps before "Needs" passes judgment on their intelligence, and prior to becoming intimate with them, he should get to know them better. If they trust him, they will tell him the truth.

Some of us have had the surgery because of dramatic weight loss or medical conditions that contributed to the loss of fullness in that area. And some of us did it because we were tired of wearing padded bras only to have our little secret come to light at an inconvenient moment.

I hope "Needs'" bias comes back to haunt him when Viagra no longer works and HE needs an implant.

PERKY AND PROUD OF IT

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I have been seriously contemplating breast enhancement surgery. I'm 35 and, although mine are ample, they don't "stand at attention" the way they used to. I'm intelligent and easygoing, but men don't seem to notice us "natural" women.

After reading "Needs'" letter, I have decided against the surgery. Maybe there's some nice guy out there after all who will love me the way I am and I won't have to alter myself to get his attention.

NEEDS A NICE GUY IN GEORGIA

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I can't believe how narrow-minded "Needs" is. Hasn't that man thought about the women who have no choice but fake breasts because of cancer? Would he turn a woman away who went through all the hurt, pain and loss—just to survive—and ended up with implants? If he's so shallow, he doesn't deserve a decent woman because she will never measure up to his "high" standards. I know I am a beautiful, intelligent woman—and my fake breasts are just like my real ones were.

AN ORDAINED MINISTER OUT WEST

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Please allow me to extend my heartiest congratulations to the lucky woman from whom that man is divorced! Years ago, after a breast cancer scare, I had reconstructive surgery. I have it on good authority (my husband) that my breasts neither "look strange" nor "feel uncomfortable."

That—ahem—"gentleman" who wrote has an odd and offensive attitude toward women. I know a number of intelligent ladies, and not one would be remotely interested in a man who would judge them according to the contents of their breasts.

A REAL WOMAN IN TEXAS

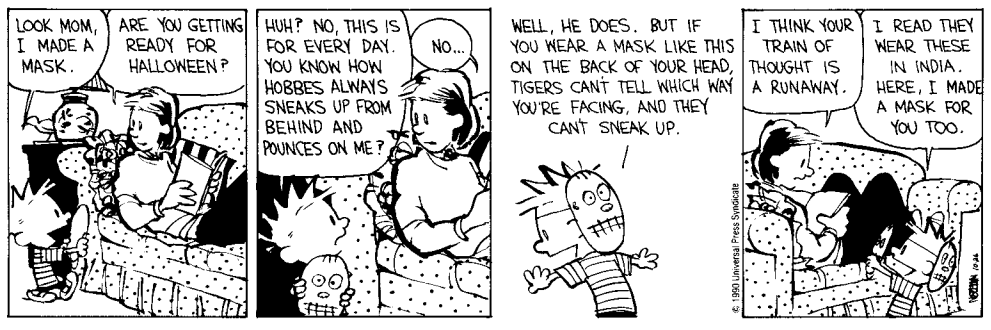
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


LOOK MOM, I MADE A MASK.
ARE YOU GETTING READY FOR HALLOWEEN?
HUH? NO, THIS IS FOR EVERY DAY. YOU KNOW HOW HOBBES ALWAYS SNEAKS UP FROM BEHIND AND POUNCES ON ME?
NO...
WELL, HE DOES. BUT IF YOU WEAR A MASK LIKE THIS ON THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD, TIGERS CAN'T TELL WHICH WAY YOU'RE FACING, AND THEY CAN'T SNEAK UP.
I THINK YOUR TRAIN OF THOUGHT IS A RUNAWAY.
I READ THEY WEAR THESE IN INDIA. HERE, I MADE A MASK FOR YOU TOO.
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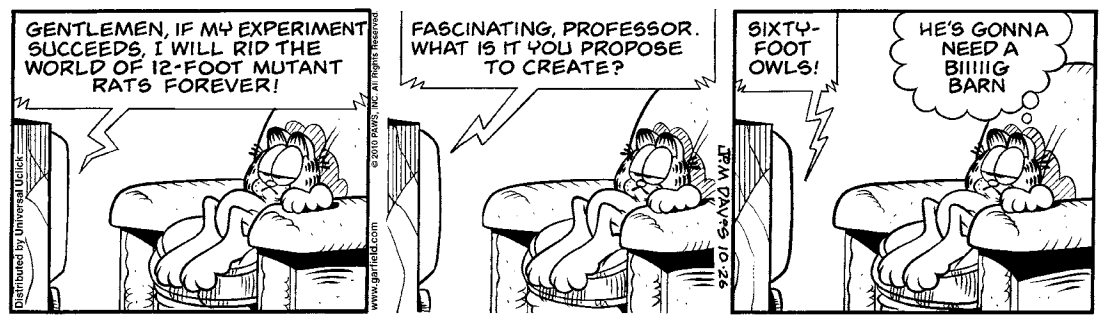
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


GENTLEMEN, IF MY EXPERIMENT SUCCEEDS, I WILL RID THE WORLD OF 12-FOOT MUTANT RATS FOREVER!
FASCINATING, PROFESSOR. WHAT IS IT YOU PROPOSE TO CREATE?
SIXTY-FOOT OWLS!
HE'S GONNA NEED A BIIIIIG BARN
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www.garfield.com

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

WHAT ARE YOU GOING AS FOR HALLOWEEN?
WELL, I WAS THINKING ABOUT GOING AS JUSTIN BIEBER.
THAT'S A STUPID COSTUME. PARENTS DON'T CARE ABOUT JUSTIN BIEBER, AND THEY'RE THE ONES WHO GIVE YOU CANDY.
RIGHT... PARENTS DON'T CARE ABOUT JUSTIN BIEBER.
YOU'RE SO WEIRD.
WEIRD LIKE A FOX.
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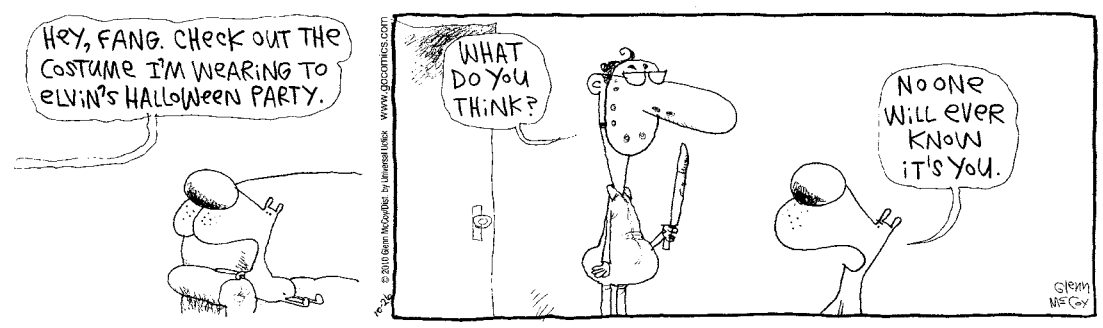
The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


HEY, FANG. CHECK OUT THE COSTUME I'M WEARING TO ELVIN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW IT'S YOU.
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

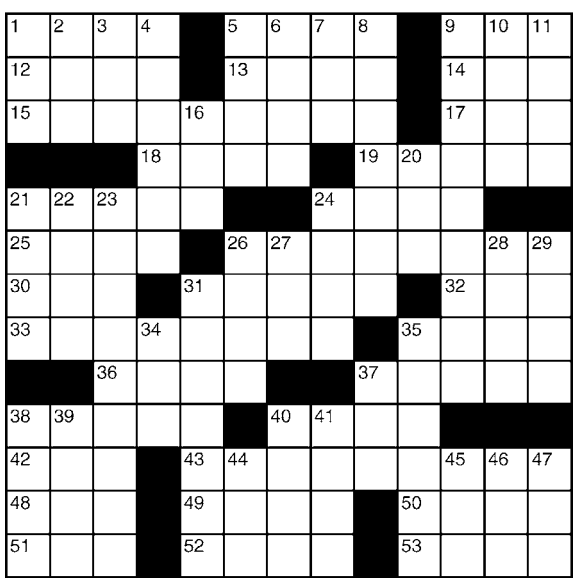
ACROSS
1 Gunshot sound
5 Salamanders
9 Discoverer's cry
12 Smell
13 Lotion additive
14 Lair
15 Edge
17 Moving vehicle
18 Ivory source
19 Eighth Greek letter
21 Allege
24 Fictional sleuth Charlie
25 Lends a hand
26 Invoice add-on
30 Dallas NBA'er, for short
31 They have their ups and downs
32 Luau music provider
33 Ready
35 Smile
36 To laugh (Fr.)
37 Sports venue
38 Performed
40 Hamburg's river
42 Mainlander's memento
43 Supporters of a cause
48 Picks out of a lineup
49 Regrets
50 Helpless?
51 Shirt shape
52 Disarray
53 TV trophy

DOWN
1 Squeezing snake
2 Toss in
3 Thanksgiving mo.
4 Free
5 Chows down
6 Anti-aircraft fire
7 Dress (up)
8 Boils
9 Exciting experience
10 Radiator output
11 Wintour or Quindlen
16 Fourth O.T. bk.
20 Owns
21 Bivouac
22 Taleteller
23 Plug
24 Lummox
26 Angry
27 Sailor's assent
28 Related
29 TV's "Warrior Princess"
31 Part of a spar
34 Chart format
35 "Summer Nights" musical
37 Disney-owned network
38 Settled down
39 Give up
40 December 24 and 31
41 Privation
44 Payable
45 Male turkey
46 Shade tree
47 Sauce for dim sum

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	O	A	D	■	H	E	S	■	B	E	C	K
A	B	R	A	S	I	V	E	■	Y	U	L	E
B	I	G	W	H	E	E	L	■	G	R	A	Y
■	■	■	D	A	D	■	V	R	O	O	M	S
S	C	A	L	D	■	F	A	U	N	■	■	■
E	R	N	E	■	B	I	G	D	E	A	L	■
W	I	T	■	T	R	E	E	D	■	B	A	G
■	B	I	G	B	I	R	D	■	C	E	D	E
■	■	■	R	A	C	Y	■	S	A	T	Y	R
R	E	M	A	R	K	■	A	P	R	■	■	■
O	M	E	N	■	B	I	G	A	P	P	L	E
S	I	G	N	■	A	V	E	M	A	R	I	A
S	T	A	Y	■	T	E	D	■	L	O	S	T

Yesterday's answer 10-26



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Seth MacFarlane, 37; Cary Elwes, 48; Dylan McDermott, 49; Pat Sajak, 64

Happy Birthday: You should be thinking about saving money or investing in something long-term, like property or a franchise business. Take care of any issues with government agencies or settlements or legal matters. Clear up loose ends so you can start something new. Join forces with people who can help you reach your goals. Your numbers are 2, 9, 12, 20, 28, 34, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Work on personal and professional relationships. It's time to make some changes in your life, with regard to the people you deal. Slowly but surely begin spending more time with the people who can offer as much as you give in return. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Put your own personal touch on whatever you do. Take ideas from your past and update them for your current situation. A strong position must be taken when dealing with what you will and won't do. Work on your own. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Keep a close watch on what everyone around you is doing. Implement a creative touch to your work that is sure to grab the attention of someone in charge. Don't get angry if someone tries to copy you; take it as a compliment. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): The more time spent with friends, family and peers, the better you will feel about yourself and your future. There are opportunities that must be put into motion now. Romance is heightened, so spread a little love around. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Speak from the heart. Problems with loved ones, children and your residence can be expected if you aren't on top of what needs to be said and done. Taking chances or being evasive will lead to misunderstandings. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): The knowledge you acquire by using your experience to help others will lead to a better lifestyle and higher returns. Travel for pleasure and love will be highlighted. A change will ignite new ideas that will transform your future. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Look at what you have learned and apply that knowledge to something professional. Strive to reach goals that will put you ahead of any competition. Don't let what others do be how you measure your own accomplishments. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take pleasure in making your home and family more comfortable. Invest in something that can be used as a safety net. Use wisely and fully the skills you were born with and the ethics you were raised with and you will reach your goals. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): The past will come back to haunt you if you did something underhanded in order to get ahead. Someone you are close to will not have your best interests at heart. A serious partnership will influence your status. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Give and take will help you relate to the people you are working with and for. Once you establish your position, you can do the best job possible in order to advance. A trip or attending a conference will enhance your knowledge. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Be ready and proceed steadily along if you want to avoid setbacks. The more prepared you are to deal with people who oppose you, the easier it will be to bypass any obstacles. Do your research and speak from the heart. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): If you believe in something, follow through. A serious partnership will be the basis for what you build in the future. Make amends with anyone you need in your life in order to turn your plan into a success. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are versatile and resourceful, creative and innovative. You are a good friend and companion.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	3	1		8		9		
5			9					
8					7			3
	6			2		4		
7			4	5	1			2
		9		3			1	
9			2					4
					5			6
		7		6		1	8	

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

7	2	8	1	6	5	9	3	4
3	4	1	9	2	7	6	5	8
5	6	9	4	3	8	1	7	2
1	7	4	5	8	9	2	6	3
6	3	5	7	1	2	8	4	9
8	9	2	6	4	3	7	1	5
4	8	6	3	9	1	5	2	7
2	5	3	8	7	6	4	9	1
9	1	7	2	5	4	3	8	6

Difficulty Level ★ 10/25

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JUST ADD SALT **Solution: 5 letters**

P	E	N	R	I	C	H	E	D	I	R	O	L	H	C
E	N	A	G	I	O	D	R	E	H	S	O	K	U	G
L	I	D	L	N	N	N	E	L	O	O	P	I	N	F
A	F	R	S	T	I	C	I	Z	M	H	S	I	F	E
S	A	A	N	A	E	V	R	O	I	I	D	S	H	H
G	S	H	A	K	E	R	R	E	N	D	U	B	I	C
G	O	G	C	E	N	E	S	E	A	B	O	O	N	H
E	D	N	K	T	A	S	T	E	S	S	A	I	A	D
E	I	I	S	R	R	A	T	T	L	E	E	L	T	I
C	U	N	U	O	R	L	I	E	A	O	I	I	U	S
N	M	O	A	O	A	T	Z	L	P	T	C	N	R	S
A	S	S	P	S	U	T	A	Ⓚ	E	A	A	G	A	O
H	T	A	A	T	E	E	W	S	Ⓞ	T	S	B	L	L
N	V	E	E	R	N	R	O	C	P	Ⓞ	P	T	L	V
E	S	S	P	R	I	N	K	L	E	P	Ⓒ	H	A	E

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Adding, Alaea, Alters, Boiling, Chef, Chips, Chloride, Cook, Cuisine, Dissolve, Eggs, Enhance, Enrich, Evaporate, Fine, Fish, Garlic, Halite, Hard, Increase, Intake, Iodized, Kosher, More, Natural, Onion, Pasta, Pool, Popcorn, Potatoes, Pretzels, Roast, Sale, Sea Salt, Seasoning, Serving, Shaker, Snacks, Sodium, Sour, Sprinkle, Substitutes, Sweet, Table, Taste

Yesterday's Answer: Fruits

Treasury 7 Send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling each ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at upuzzles.com.

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Date of Birth	:	May 5, 1972
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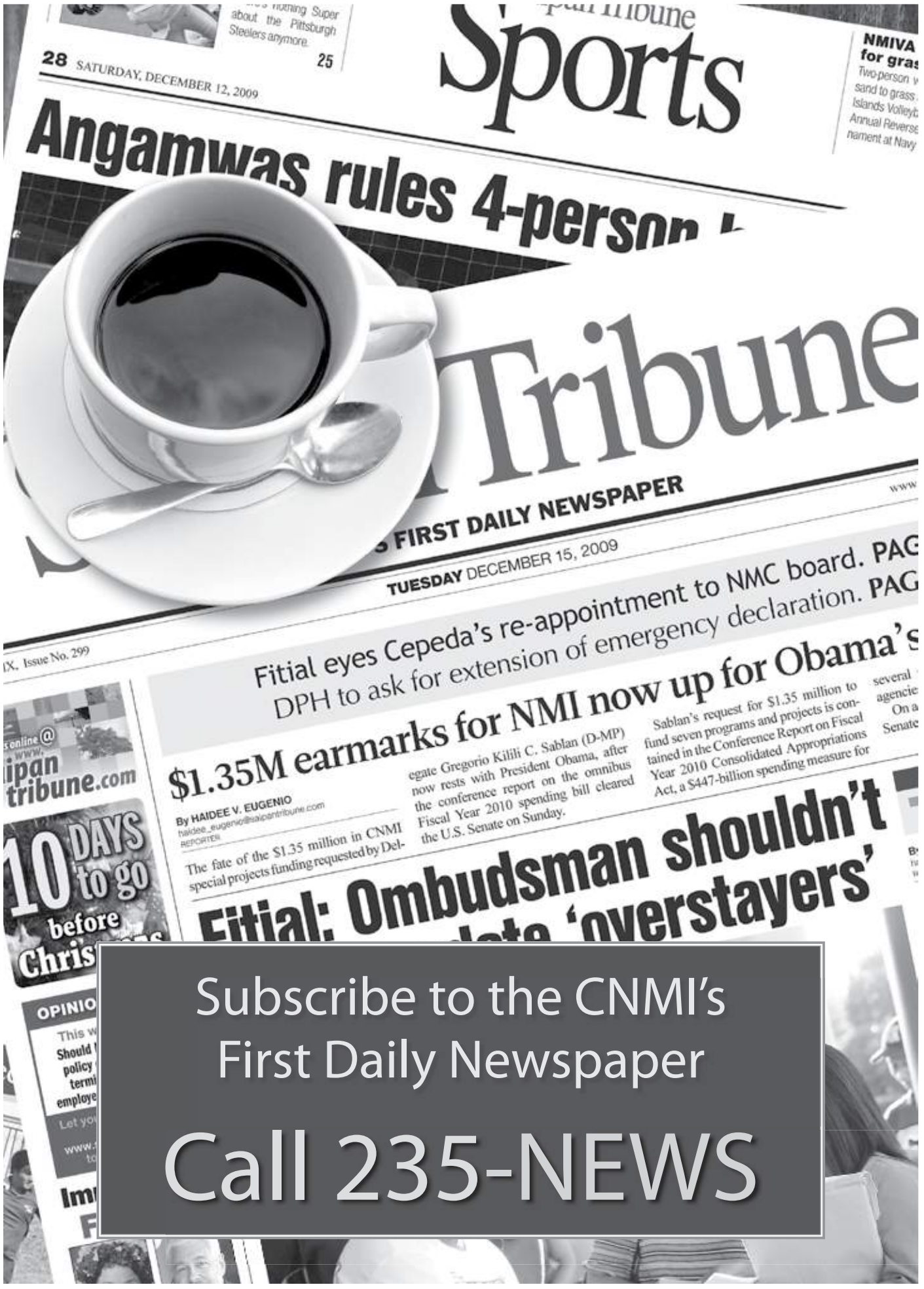
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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in this section

Officials' blunder helps Steelers beat Miami

MIAMI (AP)—The officials eventually got it right that Ben Roethlisberger fumbled at the goal line. The Dolphins were still left feeling wronged.

An officiating mistake negated Roethlisberger's late fumble, and the Pittsburgh Steelers kicked the game-winning field goal on the next play Sunday. Jeff Reed made an 18-yarder with 2:30 left, allowing the Steelers to escape with a 23-22 win.

One play earlier, with Pittsburgh trailing 22-20 and facing third-and-goal at the 2, Roethlisberger fumbled as he dived across the goal line on a quarterback draw. The play was ruled a touchdown as both teams scrambled for the loose ball in the end zone.

After a replay review, referee Gene Steratore announced that Roethlisberger fumbled before scoring. But Steratore said his crew had no clear evidence as to which team recovered the ball, and the Steelers were awarded possession at the half-yard line, allowing Reed to kick the winner.

The Dolphins then lost the ball on downs, gaining only 4 yards in four plays.

AFC North leader Pittsburgh improved to 5-1 and remained unbeaten on the road. Miami fell to 3-3, with all the defeats at home and all the wins on the road.

The Steelers lost three starters with injuries: linebacker LaMarr Woodley (hamstring), defensive end Aaron Smith (left arm) and tackle Flozell Adams (left ankle). Miami's point total was the highest against Pittsburgh this year.

The game was the first for the league's top-scoring defense since the NFL crackdown on illegal hits, a move precipitated in part by a helmet hit by Pittsburgh's James Harrison, who drew a $75,000 fine.

Maybe that robbed the Steelers of a little zeal. Chad Henne threw for 257 yards, and the Dolphins took the 22-20 lead when Dan Carpenter kicked his fourth field goal to cap a 52-yard drive with 5:17 left.

Emmanuel Sanders returned the kickoff 48 yards against the Dolphins' shaky kick-coverage unit, and when Mewelde Moore turned a short pass into a 29-yard gain, the Steelers appeared on the verge of victory.

On third-and-goal, Roethlisberger took two steps back, then ran up the middle and dived for the end zone. Chris Clemons hit him in the back to jar the ball loose, and confusion ensued.

"After the review, it has been determined that prior to the ball crossing the goal line, the runner did lose possession of the ball," Steratore finally told the crowd. "We do not have clear evidence of the team recovering the ball. Therefore Pittsburgh will have the ball, fourth-and-goal at the half-yard line."

The crowd booed as Reed trotted onto the field to kick the winner.

Roethlisberger, playing his second game since returning from his suspension, went 19 for 27 for 302 yards and two scores.

Hines Ward caught a 21-yard touchdown pass and had a 43-yard reception to set up a field goal. Mike Wallace ran past Jason Allen on a fly pattern and caught Roethlisberger's perfect throw in stride just before crossing the goal line for a 53-yard score.

After one quarter, the Dolphins led 6-0 thanks to two takeaways despite being outgained 115-7. They recovered fumbles at the Pittsburgh 22 and 13 in the first 2 minutes but settled for a field goal each time.

AP

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger (7) dives for a touchdown against the Miami Dolphins in the second half of an NFL football game in Miami, Sunday, Oct. 24, 2010.

NFL *players adjust to crackdown on illegal hits*

Dolphins cornerback Sean Smith had Steelers receiver Hines Ward lined up, ready to deliver the big hit. Instead of going high, he went for Ward's legs. No fine or penalty for that one.

It was the sort of play that, most Sundays, would have gone unnoticed, especially because Ward returned to the field a play later after getting his knees checked out.

This Sunday was different, though, because it marked the first set of games since the NFL said it would be cracking down on illegal hits, handing out fines and threatening suspensions. Actually, Ward's brief absence, and the almost total lack of big shots in other NFL games, made it look a lot like any given Sunday, even if it's still too early to tell for sure how things are—or aren't—going to change over time.

"It's football," Ward said. "If you play this game worried about getting hurt, you will get hurt. It's a fearless game, it's a physical game, so the rule is the rule. You can't play this game scared. If you do, you won't last long."

With all of the day's 13 games complete, there were no cringe-inducing hits to replay on the highlight shows—nothing the likes of what James Harrison, Brandon Meriweather and Dunta Robinson delivered last weekend in a spate of vicious plays that brought about hundreds of thousands of dollars in fines, along with repeated reminders that the league would be watching more closely from now on.

By sending out its various warnings— a memo from Commissioner Roger Goodell, a video showing can-and can't-dos, lists sent to coaches letting them know which players have multiple unnecessary roughness penalties—the NFL is looking for more certainty in a sport that has many shades of gray.

One bit of black and white: No players were penalized for illegal hits to the head in any of the 13 games, giving the league every reason to believe its message got through.

"I've seen a change in players' behavior in one week," NFL officiating chief Carl Johnson was quoted as telling Peter King on NBC's "Football Night in America."

Packers 28, Vikings 24

At Green Bay, Brett Favre threw three second-half interceptions to his former team as the Packers held on for victory.

Favre appeared to deliver another signature comeback win with an apparent touchdown strike to Percy Harvin with 48 seconds left—but the play was ruled incomplete on a replay review. With one more chance on fourth-and-15 at the 20, Favre threw incomplete out of bounds.

Green Bay turned a pair of third-quarter interceptions by Favre into touchdowns for the Packers that erased the Vikings' halftime lead, including a 32-yard return for a touchdown by Packers linebacker Desmond Bishop.

Aaron Rodgers was 21 of 34 for 295 yards with two touchdowns and two interceptions.

Panthers 23, 49ers 20

At Charlotte, John Kasay kicked a 37-yard field goal with 39 seconds remaining to give Carolina its first win in six matches this season.

The 49ers' David Carr was intercepted by Richard Marshall with just over a minute left to set up the winning kick. The 49ers fell to 1-6.

Ravens 37, Bills 34 OT

At Baltimore, Billy Cundiff kicked a 38-yard field goal with 10:57 left in overtime as the Ravens squeezed past winless Buffalo.

Joe Flacco threw three touchdown passes for the Ravens, who survived an uncharacteristic performance by a defense that was shredded for 505 yards.

Baltimore trailed 24-10 late in the first half before scoring 24 straight points to take a 10-point lead into the fourth quarter. Buffalo's Ryan Fitzpatrick then threw a 17-yard touchdown pass to Lee Evans with 5:46 left, and the Bills forced overtime on a 50-yard field goal by Rian Lindell with 4 seconds left in regulation.

Fitzpatrick went 29 for 43 for 373 yards and four touchdown—three to Evans and another to Steve Johnson.

Patriots 23, Chargers 20

At San Diego, new Chargers kicker Kris Brown missed a 50-yard field goal attempt with 23 seconds left, allowing New England to escape with a win.

Brown lined up to try a 45-yarder that would have forced overtime, but guard Louis Vasquez was whistled for a false start. Moved back five yards, Brown's attempt was long enough but bounced off the right upright. Brown was signed last week because Nate Kaeding has an injured groin.

New England, with five wins and a loss, shares top spot with New York Jets atop the AFC East.

Raiders 59, Broncos 14

At Denver, Behind Darren McFadden's four touchdowns, Oakland scored the most points in its 50-year history in routing demoralized Denver.

The Raiders were fueled by a 38-point outburst in the first 22 minutes, including touchdowns 8 seconds apart to start the rout.

Seahawks 22, Cardinals 10

At Seattle, Olindo Mare kicked five field goals, Matt Hasselbeck threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Mike Williams and Seattle took advantage of five Arizona turnovers.

The Seahawks took over first place in the NFC West despite an unimpressive performance. Four times in the second half, Seattle had possession inside the Arizona 20 and settled for Mare field goals on each occasion.

Redskins 17, Bears 14

At Chicago, DeAngelo Hall equaled an NFL record with four interceptions, running one back 92 yards for a touchdown, and Washington sacked Jay Cutler four times while forcing six turnovers.

Hall tied a record held by 18 others and became the first to pick off four passes since Deltha O'Neal did it with Denver in 2001. His one-handed interception and TD return late in the third quarter were made for the highlight reel and put the Redskins ahead for good, sending Chicago (4-3) to its third loss in four games.

Falcons 39, Bengals 32

At Atlanta, Roddy White had a spectacular day for Atlanta, catching 11 passes for 201 yards.

The Falcons squandered a 24-3 halftime lead, falling behind when Cincinnati took advantage of two turnovers and ripped off 22 straight points in the third quarter.

White put the Falcons ahead to stay with his second touchdown, an 11-yard reception early in the fourth. He then made a leaping catch on the 2-point conversion to make it 32-25.

After Cedric Benson's fumble, Michael Turner scored on a 3-yard run for a two-touchdown lead. Chad Ochocinco gave the Bengals a chance with a late 8-yard TD catch, but the Falcons recovered the onside kick.

Titans 37, Eagles 19

At Nashville, Kerry Collins threw three touchdowns and Tennessee scored 27 unanswered points in the fourth quarter.

Kenny Britt had the best receiving game in the NFL this season. He caught touchdown passes of 26, 80 and 16 yards and finished with seven receptions for 225 yards—all career highs for the second-year player on a day when he didn't start as punishment for his role in a bar fight.

The Titans (5-2) won their NFL-best 12th straight over the NFC with Collins making his first start in a year. Vince Young was sidelined by a sprained left knee and ankle that had him still limping in pregame warmups.

Buccaneers 18, Rams 17

At Tampa, Josh Freeman led another Tampa Bay fourth-quarter comeback, throwing a 1-yard touchdown pass to Cadillac Williams with 10 seconds remaining.

Connor Barth kicked four field goals for the Bucs, who trailed 17-3 before battling back to surpass their win total for last season.

Browns 30, Saints 17

At New Orleans, David Bowens returned two of Drew Brees' four interceptions for touchdowns and the Browns stunned the defending champion Saints.

Rookie Colt McCoy passed for only 74 yards but got his first win as an NFL starter—a desperately needed one for the struggling Browns (2-5).

Chiefs 42, Jaguars 20

At Kansas City, Derrick Johnson returned an interception for a score and Matt Cassel threw two TD passes to Dwayne Bowe for Kansas City.

The Jaguars trailed by only one point late in the third when Bouman stepped up and threw an ill-advised pass to Johnson, who made a juggling interception and ran 15 yards for a TD that put KC on top 28-20 with 5:13 left in the third.

Heat will be good, but apparently not beloved

By BRIAN MAHONEY
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

In this Oct. 9, 2010, file photo, Miami Heat's LeBron James throws powder into the air prior to the team's NBA preseason basketball game against the San Antonio Spurs in San Antonio.

AP

LeBron James will suit up in black next week, making his transformation complete.

In several NBA cities, he is now a bad guy.

After signing James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh, the Miami Heat should be one of the league's best teams, and certainly its most divisive. Some fans can't get enough of the potential powerhouse, others already are suffering from Heat exhaustion.

"I think Miami fans have high expectations and want to see their team win and I think fans of other teams want to see them crash and burn. I think that's normal," ESPN analyst Jeff Van Gundy said.

There's more of it with this team, though. Their unprecedented free agent haul received unprecedented media coverage, a large amount focused on how James let the world know he was leaving Cleveland.

He invited the "haters" to send comments to his Twitter page this week and received some racially insensitive comments. He was booed during a preseason game in Atlanta, but that's nothing compared to what he'll hear when he shows up the first time in Cleveland, and probably New York and Chicago, too.

Van Gundy expects all the lingering free agency drama to end once the regular season opens. But Miami's players don't think Heat hatred will stop just because the games have started.

"It may be dying down for us, but teams and players are still getting asked questions and they're still taking hits at us. And that's OK," James said. "From a basketball standpoint, we understand what we have in this locker room and in this franchise. So we just have to be able to tune out everyone's comments and what they're saying and just try to get better."

James has been one of basketball's most popular players since the moment he entered the league as the No. 1 pick in 2003. He arrived with a good story line: the kid from Akron who got to stay home and turn Ohio's team into one of the NBA's best.

He decided it was time to leave this summer, understandable since he appears to have a better chance to win titles in Miami than he ever had in Cleveland. But he chose to announce his departure on an ESPN special titled "The Decision," a one-hour show that drew nearly unanimous criticism and ruined some goodwill it took years to build.

People couldn't comprehend why James would humiliate his home fans so publicly, and he could only watch as one burned a No. 23 Cavaliers jersey in the street.

"Listen, I don't get all the hatred—anywhere," Boston coach Doc Rivers said. "I guess the press conference had a little bit to do with that."

Rivers' team put together a superstar trio three years ago when it acquired Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen in separate trades, pairing them with Paul Pierce. The Celtics stormed through the league to great fanfare and were largely a popular champion everywhere outside Los Angeles.

All three were veterans who'd never been close to a title, and Garnett in particular was well respected for how hard he fought for years in Minnesota. Rivers guessed the difference between his team and the Heat was that the Celtics built their team by trades instead of free agency, but Allen wasn't sure why Boston enjoyed a level of adoration that seems to be eluding Miami.

"I think people love the underdog and people love the story line. They love to see the guys that fought hard to get to that point want to win something. People love that Hollywood ending," Allen said. "So I don't know, I think their story has yet to be told. Obviously a lot happened over the summertime, but for us, so much drama now in the NBA that we all appreciate because there's no telling who could win."

James never told the Cavaliers he was leaving until the night of "The Decision," and Bosh similarly was vilified for largely breaking off communication with his Toronto Raptors. And while there's anger over the way the Heat were built, there's no doubt they are good for business.

ESPN.com is devoting additional coverage to Miami through its "Heat Index" page, and Commissioner David Stern expects the Heat to be playing before full houses on the road. And if they are the bad guys, so be it, since Stern said recently somebody has to be.

"You know, I grew up in 1985 as commissioner when the Celtics had four or five Hall of Fame players and the Lakers had the same," Stern said. "There is always, and if you lived outside of L.A., the Lakers were the bad guys, or if you lived outside of Boston, the Celtics were the bad guys."

Some of the Heat buzz is downright comical.

The Philadelphia 76ers announced Saturday that they'll hold a "Beat The Heat" pep rally Monday, featuring the entire team roster—and even Fire Commissioner Lloyd Ayers, not to mention an "interactive fire safety demonstration." The team will ride through part of Philadelphia in a fire truck, a clear nod to the Heat's flaming basketball logo.

Stern even made a lighthearted reference to it all Friday, saying a number of teams have told him it's "premature" to mail the championship trophy to Miami already.

James will be greeted like a Lakers player Tuesday night in Boston when he makes his official Heat debut. He may have lost his chance to be as beloved as Michael Jordan, but he's got a better chance to match him in championships. And as Jordan knows, it's about winning titles, not popularity contests.

"I'm pretty sure when we started winning, Detroit didn't like us, I'm pretty sure New York didn't like us, Cleveland didn't like us," Jordan said. "So if Miami decides to win, I'm pretty sure whoever felt like that move was not something that was well-liked are not going to support the Miami Heat. So to me, they would be champions, I could care less. They won, they beat everyone in the league, they're the champions—if they win."

Maybe all the hatred will fuel the Heat to do just that.

"You know, just let this team become what it can become or what it can't. Just let it happen," team president Pat Riley said. "And everybody out there is just trying to do something right now to raise the ante on us. And I think the more you raise the ante on a team, especially these guys, and how they talk about it, I think you might even see something even more special. So sometimes silence is better than a lot of noise, from outside."

Rangers preparing to face Giants in World Series

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Cliff Lee threw a bullpen session and took batting practice Sunday.

The Texas Rangers are getting ready for their first World Series, and the opener will be at San Francisco, where their ace left-hander will be pitching after an extended break and also taking swings in the National League park, where the designated hitter isn't used.

Since the AL championship series didn't stretch to a Game 7, Lee will be starting on eight days' rest after striking out 13 Yankees and improving his postseason record to 7-0 with a 1.26 ERA in eight starts. The bullpen session was his second since that eight-inning outing.

"Make the adjustment and push it back a couple of days," Lee said. "It's not that big of a deal."

Lee starts a World Series opener for the second year in a row after winning Games 1 and 5 last year for Philadelphia against the Yankees.

"With Cliff Lee, I have no concerns about anything," Rangers manager Ron Washington said. "He's not going to use nine days or 10 days for any reason why things may not go right, because in his mind it will always go right. And that's why he is what he is."

Last year, Lee had nine days off between his NL championship series start against the Los Angeles Dodgers and the series opener. He responded with a six-hitter, striking out 10 and walking none while allowing only an unearned run.

With the first two games in the NL city for the first time since 2001, usual DH Vladimir Guerrero likely will start only one of those games in the outfield.

"You can best believe we'll figure out a way to get Vlad in there," Washington said. "In the starting lineup some kind of way."

Guerrero will be making his first Series appearance in 15 major league seasons. Asked whether he would be in right field for both those games, the manager said no. Washington said he hasn't decided which game Guerrero will start.

Washington wouldn't say which order he would start Colby Lewis and C.J. Wilson in Games 2 and 3. Also undetermined is whether Tommy Hunter, 0-1 with a 6.14 ERA in two playoff appearances, will start Game 4 or be replaced in the rotation by Derek Holland.

The pitchers took BP during the team's two-hour workout Sunday at Rangers Ballpark, where there were no remnants remaining on the field from the confetti and ginger ale bottles that were part of the celebration Friday night.

Lee is excited about the opportunity to hit.

"Obviously that's the hardest thing in all sports, to hit a round ball with a round bat. ... It's the funnest part of the game as far as I'm concerned," Lee said. "When you think of baseball, that's what you think of, trying to get a hit. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy pitching, but as far as the straight challenge of it, hitting is the hardest thing and the most challenging. I enjoy that kind of stuff."

A .132 hitter in his 68 regular-season at-bats in a career spent mostly in the American League, Lee was 1 for 3 in last year's World Series. He hit .273 (3 for 11) the postseason for the Phillies.

More important for the Rangers, Lee has been an October ace on the mound winning all three of his starts during the playoffs. He's struck out 67 and walked seven over 64 1-3 career postseason innings.

"I'm anxious to get it started," Lee said. "I don't feel any pressure. We're fortunate to be in this spot—we're one of two teams left playing. We should just go out there and have fun and play the game the way we can, and things are going to work out."

Serious Pacquiao trains in the rain, meets the President

BOXING

MANILA—Even A sudden heavy downpour couldn't stop Manny Pacquiao from training Friday morning as the Filipino pound-for-pound king expressed readiness to do battle with Mexican Antonio Margarito on Nov. 13.

Using a cap and a white towel to shield his sweat-drenched body from the rain, Pacquiao grimly completed the speed-building and footwork-enhancing exercises charted for him by conditioning expert Alex Ariza at the Rizal Memorial track and field oval.

Retreating to a shaded corner at the stadium where onlookers, media and Team Pacquiao members sought refuge from the rain, Pacquiao capped the strength-sapping two-hour regimen by doing abdominal exercises with help from Filipino trainers Buboy Fernandez and Nonoy Neri.

"I'm already at 9.5," Pacquiao told GMA 7's Chino Trinidad in Filipino when asked about his condition on a scale of 1-10. "Ready to fight na."

Team Pacquiao, including chief trainer Freddie Roach, will be leaving Saturday night on a PAL flight for Los Angeles, where he's going to continue his preparations for the vacant World Boxing Council super welterweight crown at Roach's Wild Card Gym in Hollywood.

AP

In this photo released by Malacanang Palace, Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, left, greets Filipino boxing champion and Congressman Manny Pacquiao during the latter's courtesy call Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.

"There's still room for improvement," said Pacquiao. "I'm now comfortable with my added weight and I don't think it slowed me down. It's just that I want to develop my speed further."

"I like it (Pacquiao's showing during training)," said Ariza, who at one time applauded Pacquiao for surpassing the target time.

Filipino boxers Rodolfo Sumabong and Richie Mepranum provided Pacquiao company in the running drills that included jogging, sprints, backward and sidewise running and lateral foot movements, but both eventually lagged behind.

Pacquiao, a 6-1 favorite over Margarito, then met with President Aquino at around 2 p.m. The congressman from Sarangani was accompanied by lawyer Franklin "Jeng" Gacal during the meeting with the president.

Gacal said that when Mr. Aquino walked into the room, he told Pacquiao "I have only 10 minutes," but ended up chatting with the Filipino icon for around 40 minutes.

He said Pacquiao invited the President to watch his fight at the Dallas Cowboys Stadium but Mr. Aquino politely declined saying he was "too busy and had so much to attend to."

Gacal said the meeting "will inspire Manny even more to fight for our country." ***(PDI)***

STRONG

From Page 28

"When I came to the place where we are staying after the race, I turned on my computer to give a quick result to all our Saipan friends and then saw how many emails I had. I really can tell you guys woke up early to watch our race. I appreciate how much you give me motivation and power every race. Thank you to everyone," Carey wrote in her mass email to Saipan friends.

"I am happy with my result. I have achieved my goal and I am a few steps closer to the podium," she added.

Carey started the race in Maui through the 1.5-kilometer swim leg in the waters off Maluaka Beach fronting the famous Makena Beach and Golf Resort and timed in at 23:08 (76th best out of more than 500 swimmers). She timed in at 2:00:58 (159th) in the 32-km bike race and 57:05 (118th) in the 12-km trail run. The Saipan pro was ranked 126th overall among 501 finishers.

Joining Mieko in the XTERRA World was husband Kevin, who completed the race in 4:06:14. Kevin submitted 30:54 in the swim leg, 2:28:01 in the bike race, and 1:07:19 in the trail run to finish 40th in the men's 40 to 44 age group. His 2010 time is better than his 2009 record of 4:23:11.

This year's XTERRA World overall winner was South Africa's Conrad Stoltz, who had a blistering time of 2:31:07. The South African triathlete won the men's division for a record of fourth straight time.

Three-time women's division winner and United Kingdom's Julie Dibens failed to extend her reign in XTERRA World after dropping to second place with a time of 2:59:32. Breaking Dibens' streak in Hawaii was fellow XTERRA Saipan Championship participant Shonny Vanlandingham. The U.S. triathlete completed the race in 2:58:20 to top the women's division and finished 38th overall.

THREE

From Page 28

Goods, a $30 cash prize, three T-shirts provided by EZ-Outlet, and three $30 gift certificates from Rocksteady Shop.

The half-court basketball games were structured with two five-minute halves with a two-minute halftime break.

Each team was allowed one timeout per half. Before the game starts a player from either team shoots a "miss or make" from the top of the key to see which team starts out with the ball. At change of possession, players had to clear out the ball behind the three-point line and acknowledge a "one-pass" rule before attempting to score a basket.

The opposing team is awarded possession after each basket is scored. U19 Rollers Basketball Club members volunteered as referees, scorekeepers, and table officials during the two-day event.

"I decided to let my older RBC members run this show because while it teaches them about leadership and responsibility, it also helps them build relationships among the youth and in a way be good role models to the younger members," said RBC head coach Joe Diaz.

"I want to thank everyone who came out and supported our club. Even though the rain hurt us a little on Saturday, I think everybody had a great time Sunday night. I would also like to express much thanks to all of the sponsors for donating the great prizes and drinks for the tournament," added Diaz.

The Boys U19 Champion Team Jacob was made up of Jon Paulo Cenir, John Darag, Erick Dela Rosa, and Savlai Talalemotu; they defeated the G-Ballers, 16-13 to sweep the U19 finals.

The Bastosss lady champions, made up of Marie Javier, Lalaine Pagarao, and Ira Palero, defeated Za Rookies, 18-13, and also went undefeated in the tourney.

The Boys U15 champion Complex team is composed of Jack Aranda, Jaymark DeGuzman, Nevin Salem, and Jed Villanueva. Complex dominated the Blue Ballers, 24-5, to add an exclamation point on their perfect finish.

Three teams made up both U19 divisions and the U15 division contained five groups.

All Star Sporting Goods, EZ Outlet, Rocksteady Shop, The Athletes Foot, and Pacific Trading Co. all sponsored the tournament.

The purpose of last weekend's tournament was to help RBC raise funds for their trip to Guam in November, where they will compete in the 4th Annual Barrigada MPC Thanksgiving Tournament. RBC is still in need of sponsorships to help cover their transportation and accommodation expenses for their upcoming Guam trip.

RBC also plans to put on more fundraising ideas next month including a family themed tournament where all teams will be primarily made up of family members. More details about the tournament are coming soon after the exact dates, times, and format are confirmed. With time permitting, another 3-on-3 tourney may also take place as a result of last weekend's strong turnout.

WILD

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the division with a 106-59 record, Trailing by 11 games is second place IT&E Kamote's (95-70) with Boyz-B (92-73) in third place. Notables last week include a 160 High-In by Kamote's PeeJay Naval and a 145 High-Out by Ray Cabrera of Naughty Boyz-2.

Naughty Boyz-2 8, Top Shooters 7

After both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches and a wild cricket game, home team Naughty Boyz-2 struck first and swept both partners 501 contests. Then they won a pair of cricket matches and a partners baseball game for the automatic victory, while Sande's Top Shooters took the final team 1001 match.

Kamote's 9, Sang Baggers 6

At D'Pirates Bar & Grill, both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches and a wild cricket game, before home team Kamote's swept both partners 501 contests and three of the four cricket matches for the automatic victory. They added a partners baseball win to their total and the Sand Baggers, out of Flair Bar, took the final team 1001 match.

Barracudas 10, No Fear 5

At VFW Post 3456, the visiting Barracudas, out of Naked Fish, won three of the four singles 301 matches, a wild cricket game and both partners 501 matches to build a promising lead. Then they won a pair of cricket matches for the automatic victory and added both partners baseball games to their total, while No Fear took the final team 1001 match.

GCA

From Page 28

Like the first playoff game, MBA's much taller players were too much for the Geckos, allowing the Stormz to make it to the semifinals.

The Stormz, which bowed to the Eagles in last year's finals, will face the winner of the Saipan International School A-Calvary Christian Academy in the semis. The Geckos A and CCA Sharks will battle for a semis ticket today at 3pm. The winner of the semis game on Thursday will then face GCA in the finals on Friday.

The MBA Stormz was seeded fourth in the playoffs with its 4-4 record, while SIS A finished second in the regular season after an 8-2 record. The Geckos absorbed all their losses against the Eagles. Calvary was ranked fifth in the playoffs with its 3-7 slate.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	5	1	0	.833	159	101
New England	5	1	0	.833	177	136
Miami	3	3	0	.500	111	135
Buffalo	0	6	0	.000	121	198
South						
Tennessee	5	2	0	.714	199	117
Houston	4	2	0	.667	153	167
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.667	163	125
Jacksonville	3	4	0	.429	130	209
North						
Pittsburgh	5	1	0	.833	137	82
Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	149	129
Cincinnati	2	4	0	.333	132	141
Cleveland	2	5	0	.286	118	142
West						
Kansas City	4	2	0	.667	150	112
Oakland	3	4	0	.429	179	165
San Diego	2	5	0	.286	177	149
Denver	2	5	0	.286	138	199

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	4	2	0	.667	134	118
Washington	4	3	0	.571	130	133
Philadelphia	4	3	0	.571	172	157
Dallas	1	4	0	.200	102	111
South						
Atlanta	5	2	0	.714	169	133
Tampa Bay	4	2	0	.667	98	128
New Orleans	4	3	0	.571	147	138
Carolina	1	5	0	.167	75	130
North						
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	126	114
Green Bay	4	3	0	.571	167	136
Minnesota	2	4	0	.333	111	116
Detroit	1	5	0	.167	146	140
West						
Seattle	4	2	0	.667	120	107
Arizona	3	3	0	.500	98	160
St. Louis	3	4	0	.429	120	131
San Francisco	1	6	0	.143	113	162

Yesterday's Games

Baltimore 37, Buffalo 34, OT
Washington 17, Chicago 14
Atlanta 39, Cincinnati 32
Tennessee 37, Philadelphia 19
Pittsburgh 23, Miami 22
Tampa Bay 18, St. Louis 17
Cleveland 30, New Orleans 17
Kansas City 42, Jacksonville 20
Carolina 23, San Francisco 20
Seattle 22, Arizona 10
Oakland 59, Denver 14
New England 23, San Diego 20
Green Bay 28, Minnesota 24

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OVER 50

From Page 28

School's Kelvin DeLeon Guerrero finished first place out of a field of 13 in the U14 Boys division and fourth overall with an impressive time of 14:33, over five minutes ahead of his competition.

Hopwood's Janille Pagsolingan topped the six-runner U14 Girls division with a 22:37 mark.

Whispering Palms School's John Author was his school's lone competitor but he finished first place overall and beat out a six-runner U12 Boys field with a one-mile time of 6:43.

Hopwood's Zarinae Sapong finished the course strong with an 8:44 and stole first place from classmate Michelle Bael by less than a second at the finish line to win U12 Girls race. There was a field of eight runners in the U12 Girls division.

Meanwhile, Garapan Elementary School's Joshalyn Flores was the only elementary level qualifier present in the Cross Country event held last Oct. 9 after she finished with a 9:24. Flores slowed up a little bit this time around with a 9:32, but still managed first place in the U10 Girls division and even beat out three of the five U10 Boys.

Saipan Community School's Noel Lim finished first out of the five-member U10 Boys division with a time of 8:09.

Saipan Community's Ken Song topped the three-runner U8 Boys division with a mark of 8:33, while classmate Jina Lee was the lone U8 Girls qualifier and posted a time of 10:25.

Cabalen-Wings Travel gains second finals seat

Cabalen-Wings Travel's Junar Guiab pulls up for a jumper against two VisMinda-Kids Cove defenders during their playoff game in the masters division of the UFO caging last Sunday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Cabalen-Wings Travel caught the last bus to the finals of the masters division of the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League after beating VisMinda-Kids Cove in their playoff game, 89-82, last Sunday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Cabalen-Wings Travel will dispute the masters championship against MAFEA-Ebisuya in a one-game only title match tonight. VisMinda settled for third place after wasting two chances to advance to the finals and following back-to-back losses over the weekend.

The battle for the second and last finals seat was tight with neither team leading by double digits and Cabalen securing the match only in the last two minutes of the game when VisMinda played with a depleted lineup.

VisMinda led for the last time, 78-77, after Jun Alipio's jumper, with under four minutes left in the match. Then the Kids Cove-sponsored squad committed a couple of errors, allowing Cabalen to grab the lead.

VisMinda's last error came off Jun Abedes' inbound pass to James Abuy. The feed was too strong and Abuy tried to save the ball from going out of the sideline. However, the leather went to the wrong hands, as Edwin Santos picked up the loose ball and made an undergoal stab to give Cabalen an 84-80 lead, going into the last two minutes of the game.

VisMinda's bid to launch one big rally then suffered a big blow when Ferdie De la Torre fouled out, leaving the team with only four players in the last 1:34 of the game. VisMinda played with only seven players and then was down to six after Elias Rangamar fouled out midway in the fourth period. Alipio joined him later before De la Torre was caught pushing off Robert Guiang in a hustle play.

Guiang split his charities and Cabalen ran down the clock to seal the win and end VisMinda's season.

Santos paced Cabalen with 24 points, while Sam Fernandez drilled 22. Tony Diaz and Junar Guiab contributed 15 and 13, respectively.

Abuy top-scored for VisMinda with 27 markers, while Alipio nailed 14, 10 in the first period, but none in the second and third quarter.

Meanwhile, Game 1 of the championship series in the open division will also start tonight after the masters division finals.

Defending champion MDX-Chow Queen will meet MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt in a best-of-three title showdown.

Cabalen-Wings Travel 89 – Santos 24, Fernandez 22, Diaz 15, Guiab 13, Guiang 9, Yalung 6.

VisMinda-Kids Cove 86 – Abuy 27, Alipio 14, Abedes 11, Villarin 11, De la Torre 9, Rangamar 8, Pineda 2.

Scoring by quarters:25-18, 41-44, 67-64, 89-82.

Bleaken, White bat for more badminton tournaments

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Badminton Oceania regional development manager Nadia Bleaken and Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White encouraged Northern Marianas Badminton Association and its supporters to hold more tournaments in succeeding years.

Bleaken and White were the special guests in the opening ceremony for the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament, the fourth and season-ending event of NMBA. The two officials delivered brief messages at the opening rites and reiterated the importance of consistently having tournaments for badminton players on the island.

"Living in the island where badminton is considered a minor sport, I am delighted to see badminton grow in the CNMI. Like any other sport, one way of promoting badminton and developing our players' skills is to hold tournaments consistently throughout the year. I hope that NMBA and its supporters will continue their commitment in providing our players venues to develop their skills and live a healthy lifestyle through playing sports," White said.

Bleaken, who praised the coordinated efforts of NMBA for putting up a well-organized opening ceremony, said she is happy to personally witness the way the local association hosts a tournament. She hopes that she will hear more from NMBA, as she wants updates and results of its tournaments posted in the Badminton Oceania website.

"Seeing a lot of players here gather tonight is something that I would like to report back to Badminton Oceania. I wish you more tournaments to come and keep playing our sport," Bleaken said.

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White prepares to do the ceremonial serve for the opening of the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament last Friday at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Joining Bleaken and White in the opening rites was NMBA president Jerry Tan and *Beach Road* manager Alexie Zotomayor. The three NMBA guests were also the judges in the best in uniform contest during the tournament's opening last Friday at the REM Centre.

The panel adjudged Green Buck$ the winner of the best in uniform competition, besting Red Hot Chili Shuttlers, Orange Shuttle Masters, Black Hawks, Royale Blue, Pink Dynamites, and Yellow Idols.

Meanwhile, games in the Traders Tournament will continue next weekend and will run for one month. The tournament has a round robin format with the Top 4 teams advancing to the playoffs after the elimination round.

Catalla, Salalila are October SRCR victors

Rodney Catalla and Paul Salalila won their respective Saipan Radio Control Racers Club's 1/10 Electric 2WD and 1/8 Nitro Truggy October races held last Sunday at the As Lito racetrack.

In the electric short track category, Catalla's RC-sponsor Traxxas Slash swept the podium. Catalla beat out top qualifier Jojo Saracho, who came in second, while Jude Dickinson Jr. took third place.

Catalla won the pole in the Truggy class race, but eventually finished in second place to Salalila, while Saracho settled for the third spot. Salalila races for Kyosho STRR in the Truggy division, Catalla for Team Associated RC8T, and Saracho under Mugen MBX6T.

There are over 20 active SRCR members who regularly hold weekly practices at the As Lito track on Saturdays from 2pm to 6pm. In addition, the SRCR also tries to hold a monthly race one Sunday per month as a whole day event from 9am to 5pm in their two racing classes. The public is welcome to check out the track to learn more about their unique sport hobby.

For more information about the active SRCR club, contact Rodney Catalla at 234-5911, 256-7119 or email drrc35@yahoo.com. ***(Walter Sutherland)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Rodney Catalla, center, beat out top qualifier Jojo Saracho, left, who came in second, while Jude Dickinson Jr. took third place in the Electric Short Track class of the Saipan Radio Controlled Racers Club's October races held last Sunday in As Lito.

Wild Shooters lead division despite loss

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Buddies Bar & Grill's Wild Shooters maintained its lead in the Flame Tree Division despite a 9-6 loss to second-ranked Jonny's Umi Shooters at home in the Saipan Electronic Dart Association last Thursday.

Both teams won a pair of singles 301 matches, a game of wild cricket, a partners 501 contest, and a pair of cricket matches before the visiting Umi Shooters swept both partners baseball games for the automatic win. They added the final team 1001 match for good measure. Umi Shooter's Nelson Decena won five of his six matches.

With a 104-61 win-loss record, Wild Shooters hold a slim two-game lead over Umi Shooters. D'Pirates Bar &Grill's IDK-2 is in third spot with a 92-73 card.

Notables last week include a High-In of 160 by Phil Fejeran of VFW's Dutty Gunz and a High-Out of 112 by Dean Borja of the VFW Assashunz.

Onagas! 8, Gaiana-B 7

Visiting Gaiana-B, of Gaia Bar, won three of the four singles 301 matches for the early lead, but the Naked Fish's Onagas! won a partners wild cricket game and both partners 501 contests to answer back. The game went back and forth as both teams won a pair of cricket matches and a partners baseball game before the Onagas! took the final team 1001 match for the comeback win.

IDK-2 8, Dutty Gunz 7

Visiting IDK-2 won three of the four singles 301 matches and swept both wild cricket games for the early advantage. After Dutty Gunz swept both partners 501 matches, IDK-2 won a pair of cricket matches and a partners baseball game for the automatic victory. Dutty Gunz took the final team 1001 match.

Get Sum 9, Assashunz 6

In a home game at The Flair, Get Sum swept all four singles 301 matches and both wild cricket games to build a commanding lead. Then they won a partners 501 contest and a cricket match for the automatic win. Get Sum added the final team 1001 match to their total.

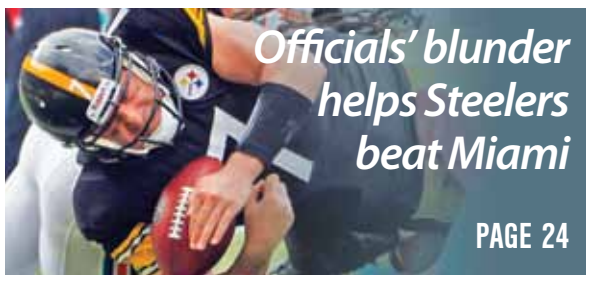
Salbahe Brothers on top of Fanihi

In the Fanihi division, Salbahe Brothers followed the lead of its stablemate Wild Shooters as it currently is ahead of its division despite losing to Buddies' Boyz-B, 6-9, at home Thursday.

Visiting Boyz-B won three of the four singles 301 matches, a wild cricket game, and both partners 501 contests to jump out in front. Then they won a cricket match and a partners baseball game for the automatic victory and added the final team 1001 match to their total. Boyz-B's Mario Abo won all six of his matches.

Not to worry as Salbahe Brothers has a stranglehold of

See WILD on Page 26



Saipan Tribune
Sports

Strong finish for Mieko in Maui

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

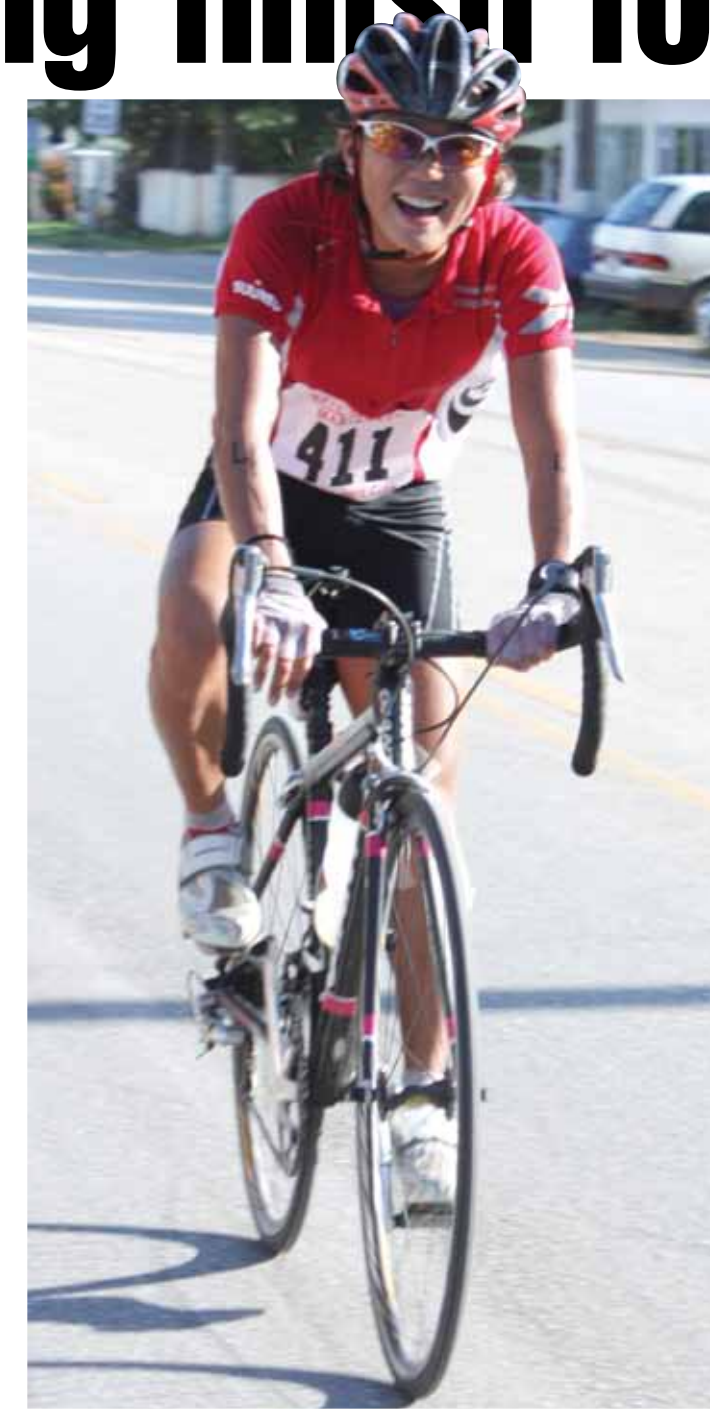
Congratulatory messages flooded Mieko Carey's inbox when she checked her email after completing the 2010 XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii last weekend.

She deserved the good remarks after breaking her 2009 time and moving five notches up from last year's ranking in the women's division of the most prestigious stop in World XTERRA Tour.

XTERRA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Carey timed in at three hours, 21 minutes, and 11 seconds in the grueling off-road triathlon race in Hawaii last Sunday (Monday on Saipan), shattering her 2009 time of 3:35:44. The 32-year-old Saipan triathlete finished 13th in the women's pro division, passing her 2009 ranking (18th place) when she debuted as a pro in XTERRA World last year.

See STRONG on Page 26



Mieko Carey, seen here heading to the finish line of a local bike race early this month, completed the 2010 XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii last weekend with a time of 3:21:11.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

GCA enters finals; MBA in semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Grace Christian Academy and Marianas Baptist Academy won their respective playoff games to advance to the next round of the junior varsity division of the 2010-2011 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Volleyball League.

The Eagles was pitted against Mt. Carmel School in the first round of the playoffs and GCA swept the Geckos, 25-9, 25-15, yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The win gave the Eagles the outright slot to the finals where they will attempt to notch their seventh straight varsity division championship. GCA needed only a victory in the early round of the playoffs to earn a return trip to finals after topping the six-team regular season with an immaculate 10-0 record. In 10 games in the double-round robin regular season, the Eagles only dropped a set.

The Knights were ranked last after the regular season, as they failed to make it to the win column.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Marianas Baptist Academy's Carlo Samson serves against Saipan International School B during their playoff game in the COPSSA volleyball league yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Mt. Carmel's miseries continued in the playoffs, as they had to challenge the top-seeded Eagles, who needed only about 40 minutes to eliminate the Knights. GCA leaned on its much taller frontliners to dominate MCS.

The second playoff game of the day also ended soon with the MBA Stormz sweeping Saipan International School B, 25-14, 25-15.

See GCA on Page 26

Three teams top 3-on-3 caging

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Boys U19 Team Jacob foursome, U19 Bastoss trio, and Boys U15 Complex foursome all went undefeated in the Rollers Basketball Club's 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament that concluded Sunday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The winning teams each took home a basketball provided by All-Star Sporting

See THREE on Page 26

WALTER SUTHERLAND
The three winning teams of the Rollers Basketball Club's 3-on-3 Tournament pose for a group photo with their prizes after the conclusion of the competition Sunday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

WALTER SUTHERLAND
Participants of last Saturday's All Schools Cross Country series pose at the CPA Airport Field.

Over 50 participate in Week 2 of Cross Country

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

A total of 51 runners showed up in the second week of the All Schools Cross Country series last Saturday at the CPA Airport Field.

The U18 and U14 division completed two laps equivalent to two miles around a course mapped out by officials of Northern Marianas Athletics, while the U12, U10, and U8 groups completed one lap equivalent to one mile.

Northern Marianas Athletics

Marianas High School's Michael Mancao led the six-member pack in the two-mile U18 Boys division with a time of 12:42. MHS' Chris Obalde finished first out of three runners in the U18 Girls division with a time of 16:33.

Hopwood Junior High

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